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The Nation

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1911.

The Week

The strength of the sentiment in favor of election of United States Senators by the direct vote of the people has been strikingly attested in the proceedings of the Senate during the past few days. Nobody would have supposed, a few months ago, that a majority of the Senators could have been found to vote for consideration of the proposed Constitutional amendment, when it had been so recently reported and only a few weeks remained of the session; and this despite the fact that the amendment, as proposed, is obnoxious to the charge of doing much more than it is ostensibly designed to do. Senator Lodge was justified in viewing with great apprehension, as he did in his speech Monday, the sacrifice, as an incident to the contemplated change, of powers now possessed by the Federal Government in relation to the election of Senators. But this objection would be infinitely more effective if it came from a source friendly to direct election in itself. Inherently, there is nothing in direct election which should necessitate any alteration in the present balance of powers between the nation and the States; and the language of the amendment ought to invite neither the objection made by Southern members to some forms—that they would give the central government powers like those contemplated in the Force bill—nor the objection urged with so much emphasis by Senator Lodge.

That the ship subsidy bill should pass even one house of Congress is bad enough. That it should pass because a new Democratic Senator failed to stay in his seat to vote is fresh proof of the absence of proper leadership in the Democratic party. Now the fight will be on in dead earnest in the House of Representatives, and there the bill should be beaten at all costs. The dispatches indicate that the outlook for it is slim there, but no stone should be left unturned to insure its defeat. At the very moment when the whole political question of the hour is the battle against special privilege, the suggestion that the United States should spend large sums of money to make possible certain steamship lines which would otherwise operate at a loss, ought to be spurned. Just how much principle there is behind the bill appears from the fact that the new insurgent Senator from Washington was opposed to it *until* Pacific Ocean lines were included in it. Then his opposition melted away. It is the same old story of creating industries on the you-tickle-me-I'll-tickle-you basis, to support which the whole people is taxed.

The courtesy of the Senate often moves in mysterious ways its wonders to perform, and just now it appears to be working upon Senator Lorimer to induce him to resign. Tearful appeals are made to him by brother-Senators. They point out to him with pathos in their voices the exceedingly awkward position in which they are placed. Senatorial courtesy is pulling them now this way, now that. They hate to reflect upon the Senatorial committee which has reported that not enough votes in the Illinois Legislature were bribed to invalidate Lorimer's election, but then there is the evidence, there is Root's speech against him, there is exigent public sentiment. On the other hand, they would be smitten with grief to vote against Lorimer, a brother beloved, and himself the very flower of Senatorial courtesy. Won't he kindly prove that he is by taking himself out of the way, and enabling Senators to do their duty by dodging it? To this moving request Senator Lorimer himself is said to be objecting that suicide is confession, but we are confident that if the courtesy of the Senate is resolutely applied to him, he will yet permit it to do its perfect work.

The lesson of the forest fires of last summer, in the opinion of national forest officers, is the value of proper utilization of the range under regulated grazing. Detailed examination of the lands burned over in Washington and Oregon shows a timber loss of about 700,000,000 feet. In the forest where the fire extended over the greatest area, 160,000 acres were burned. This part of the fire, however, was chiefly surface, and far less destructive than fires which travel through the crowns of the trees. The reason for the non-use of this and other forests is their inaccessibility. As a consequence, the dry grass and other herbage spread the flames and also made them fiercer than they would have been if the land had been grazed. It is the policy of national forest administration to open all available range to the fullest use consistent with preservation of its "carrying power" and with protection of forest growth and water supplies. This is done by opening means of communication, through construction of driveways, roads, and trails, so that stock may penetrate wherever forage is to be found. The Department of Agriculture is also obtaining concessions from railways in the form of rates and facilities for shipping stock in and out of regions where forage is now going to waste. The topography of some of the country is such as to make it available only from the Canadian side, but American stock owners are beginning to work into it from that direction.

Two points in the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs deserve notice. The first is the arousing of interest in the efforts of the Government to protect its wards from the introduction and sale of liquor. Not only are the superintendents of the various reservations and schools working with the Department in this matter, but there is an increasing coöperation by the State officers. In some States men are employed to detect liquor-selling to Indians, in others no more saloons are to be licensed, and in some, ordinances have been passed by county officers prohibiting such sale. In a few cases the Indians themselves have petitioned for the revoking of saloon licenses. More than a thousand convictions for illegal selling were obtained during the year, and more than a hundred saloons were closed. The second point has to do with the old story of the stealing of Indian lands. In 1906 Congress removed all restrictions on the sale, encumbrance, or taxation of the lands of the adults of mixed blood on the White Earth Reservation in Minnesota. At once the allottees began to sell their

lands. The cupidity of the white purchasers led to flagrant violations of the law. They bought lands of Indians who were unquestionably full-bloods, and resorted to every kind of trickery and fraud, until 95 per cent. of the allotments, or the timber on them, had been acquired. An investigation into these sales, which involved millions of dollars, has resulted in the assignment of special United States attorneys by the Department of Justice to recover the lands and the value of the timber illegally purchased. Progress is slow on account of numerous legal difficulties in the way, but it is earnestly to be hoped that it will be sure.

The Baltimore ordinance for the segregation of white and colored people in their places of residence has been pronounced void on account of technical defects, by a Baltimore court. But it is interesting to note that while the judges rendered their decision on the ground of improper framing of the ordinance, they took occasion, in handing down the decision, to touch upon the real issue involved, as follows:

> Whether it is possible to pass a valid ordinance providing for the segregation of the white and colored races in their places of residence, is a question of great importance, but is one which in our judgment ought to be decided when an ordinance not otherwise void is before this court.

It happens that of the two judges sitting in the case, one is a Democrat and the other a Republican, but there is apparently no difference of opinion between them as to the grave doubt that attaches to the question whether it would be possible Constitutionally to effect the object arrived at by any device whatsoever.

San Francisco will think none the less of her victory over New Orleans as the Panama Exposition city for the "climax of enthusiasm" that came with the speech made by Representative Rodenburg in behalf of her rival, or for the "frank acceptance of the fact" that the influence of the Administration was cast on her side for the purpose of obtaining, without open protest, the ratification of the new treaty with Japan. The Pacific metropolis has been confident of winning, and ready to celebrate the news with a "spontaneous" demonstration, carefully outlined for it in advance by one of its weekly journals. The details of the impromptu celebration are monotonously like those of any occasion of rejoicing. A parade and a noise are its essential elements, the latter to be produced by "opening up every siren and whistle around the bay, and keeping it open while steam or air holds out," as well as by "automobile sirens, tin horns, rattles, and torpedoes."

The House has passed without debate the Senate resolution making possible the reinstatement of the nine cadets who were dismissed from West Point two years ago for hazing. It is the latest of many illustrations of the Congressional way of enforcing discipline among those who are some day to be in position of authority. The old rule that he who commands must first learn to obey is too often superseded both at West Point and at Annapolis by appealing over the heads of one's superiors to a body subject to pressure of political and social influence. The fact that army officers generally deprecate the passage of the resolution seems to have no more weight with Congress than the common-sense considerations that point in the same direction.

The announcement by the Union Pacific management that it proposes—regardless of halting bond markets, government supervision of rates, and demand for higher wages by railway laborers—to spend $75,000,000 in double tracking of its transcontinental line, is interesting in many ways. It is an evidence, for one thing, of the development of the railway industry in the younger West. So long as a railway from the Missouri River to the Pacific had, as its primary function, merely the linking of two distant industrial communities by traversing two thousand miles of largely unsettled territory, a single track was not only sufficient, but was all that such an enterprise could afford. But the change in that section of the country, during the decade past, has been very great. The States directly traversed by the Union Pacific's lines to Portland and San Francisco now contain two millions more of population than in 1900; their product and industry have grown even faster than their population, and the movement of through freight and passengers has risen in almost equal measure. It is this remarkable industrial growth which brought such railway companies as the Union and Northern Pacific from their insolvency of 1896 to their exceptionally prosperous condition of to-day. The project will require at least five years.

Two points in the announcements of Dean West, made last Thursday with reference to the new Graduate College at Princeton, though not entirely unfamiliar, are of great interest. These are the plans to keep the graduate school distinct in every way from the college, and to give graduate students, at reasonable prices, comfortable lodgings. At Harvard and Yale instructors are sometimes confronted by the problem of lecturing to men ranging all the way from freshmen to men three or four years out of college—or, in individual cases, twenty years. The example of Princeton will doubtless be influential in changing all this. In the matter of surrounding the actual living of graduate students with a certain atmosphere of culture, Princeton, with her great endowment of upwards of three millions of dollars, can also do great service. Harvard fronted in this direction two or three years ago by devoting Conant Hall to the purpose, after having seen graduate students packed away in stuffy rooms, sometimes starving themselves into serious illness, and in other ways pitifully bringing reproach upon the graduate school. Remembering these former conditions, which are typical, we believe, of such schools elsewhere, we may well be delighted to hear from Dean West that

> The quadrangle of Thompson College is planned to accommodate approximately 100 graduate students. Each student is to have his own study and bedroom, for the all-important reason that experience proves that the graduate student, far more than the undergraduate, needs the exclusive and continuous use of his study. A great deal of his work has to be done alone. Moreover, every two suites of student's rooms will be provided with a small bath and toilet room for the sake of health, cleanliness, efficiency, and economy in the service of the building and the general amenities of civilized life. Breakfast and luncheon will be served in the small dining-room and dinner in the Memorial Dining Hall.

The emotions of Keats on first looking into Chapman's Homer are rare in a day of crammed and bored candidates for a college entrance examination in English, but an ornament of the lyric stage has apparently duplicated the experi-

ence. "For the first time in my life," she is reported to have said, "I am reading the Bible." And she goes on to offer evidence, not only of her reading but of her historical judgment. "I am reading about Solomon, and I just adore him." It was in Philadelphia that the new planet swam into her ken, and that, like stout Cortez (who was really Balboa), she started at the strange sight with "wild surmise." How deeply she was affected is revealed by her declared intention "to keep on reading the good book." It would be interesting to know the reason for her flattering endorsement of the luxury-loving monarch, but she gives no hint.

The increase of 679 persons, or eleven per cent., in the number taking the civil service examinations for places in the Philippines during the last fiscal year, is due almost entirely to the larger number of Filipinos examined in English. Excluding non-educational examinations for skilled laborers, there was an increase of 861, or 24 per cent., in the number of Filipinos examined in English, and a decrease of 304, or 19 per cent., in the number examined in Spanish. Up to September 30, 1903, the maximum number of Filipinos examined in English in any year was ninety-one. During the last fiscal year it reached 4,516. Of the persons examined in the fifty-three distinct kinds of tests during the year, 79 per cent. were examined in English. Slightly more than 80 per cent. of the local appointees were Filipinos. There was a decrease of 31 per cent. in the number of Americans appointed in the United States to the classified service. One feature of the year's statistics which the Bureau of Civil Service looks upon unfavorably is the increase in voluntary resignations of regularly and permanently appointed Americans. Of these, there were 508, or 19 per cent. of the total number, and this is an increase of 132, or 35 per cent., above the number for the preceding year. Finally, the ability of the Bureau to supply well-qualified men has borne its natural fruit in leading appointing officers to take a higher view of its value.

Kinglake had a cynical reference to "the qualifying words which correct the imprudences and derange the grammatical structure of a Queen's Speech." That fling could not be made in connection with the King's Speech at the opening of the new Parliament Monday. It is very brief, but, on the main issue, is wholly business-like. As everybody expected, and as, indeed, was inevitable after the general election, the Government is at once to push its bill for limiting the veto of the House of Lords. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is away ill in the South of France, but the scheme which Mr. Lloyd George had spoken of to provide a system of State insurance against sickness and lack of employment will also, it is announced, be introduced in the present sitting of Parliament. This will naturally bind the Labor members even more closely to the Ministry. As for the terms of the Veto Bill, it is probable that they will, in general, follow those of the measure of last year. But so great among the thinking men of both parties is the sense of the gravity of the Constitutional crisis, that it is not impossible that, after a time, some sort of compromise may be arrived at, covering both a sharper definition of the legislative powers of the House of Lords and a thorough remaking of that body.

Notwithstanding all the usually just complaints against rumor-printing by newspapers, it is evident that rumor may spread amazingly without their assistance. The story of King George's morganatic marriage has been common talk all over Europe and even in America for years. Semi-official contradictions, such as that from the pulpit by the Archbishop of Canterbury, failed utterly to stop a slander cruelly defamatory of a woman, grievous to her distinguished family, and injurious to national morals. It is not long since a sensational story about the death of a prominent American was as common gossip in the clubs of London and Paris as in New York, but the publication of denials and evidence, when it at last came, was made with the evident purpose of nailing a lie and not with the malicious desire further to spread it abroad, as betrayed by the writer in the *Liberator*. The sentence of a year in prison must be everywhere hailed with satisfaction, and the swift course of justice, clearing up and ending the whole miserable affair in a couple of hours, is recommended to our courts for observation.

That the representatives of more than a million organized workers voted unanimously at Leicester, England, last week for a resolution denouncing militarism and war and declaring for the arbitration of all international disputes is heartening news. It was at a special conference for disarmament prior to the annual conference of the Labor party that this action was taken, and Keir Hardie's resolution, in favor of the universal strike as a means of preventing war, was defeated by only six votes. A clause of the resolution adopted calls upon the workers of Great Britain to take organized action with their fellow-workers in Germany and elsewhere to bring about disarmament and the reduction of militaristic burdens. There is a significant warning in this to statesmen of all nations, for this means that English working men have taken precisely the same position as the followers of Bebel in Germany.

One of the inconspicuous but not unimportant problems of empire is the question of European education in India, which is now agitated by the members of the "Domiciled Community." Such education has always depended mainly upon private liberality, which is inadequate for providing facilities equal to those furnished by the Government for its purely Indian subjects. This discrimination is bringing earnest protest from the classes unfavorably affected by it, who point out that a European student is excluded from the colleges affiliated with Calcutta University, that it is difficult to obtain properly qualified teachers, and that there is need of a more complete training, especially designed to prepare young men for their chosen profession. The solution of the problem which commended itself to the recent European Schools Conference was the establishment of an Indian Training College for teachers, and of a Central European College, affiliated with the University of London and "staffed" at first by competent teachers from abroad. This will require a fund of £250,000, which it is proposed to collect from England, America, and the colonies. Meanwhile, the "Domiciled Community" is urged to put its own house in order and to give united support to those who are already working in its educational interest.

A REALLY NATIONAL POLICY.

Monday's action by the House Democrats in deciding by a large majority to vote for the bill carrying out President Taft's trade agreement with Canada, is highly significant. It of course assures the passage of the bill by the House next week. It also shows that the measure can count upon a large Democratic support in the Senate. And this fact must have its influence with disgruntled and wavering Republicans. Can they refuse to stand by their own President? Will they compel the man whom they expect to renominate for the Presidency next year to depend upon the other party for putting through the first distinctive policy he has fathered? That policy, moreover, is evidently popular. Are the Democrats to be enabled to say that, but for them, it could not have been enacted? These questions suggest the natural and legitimate party pressure which will be put upon grumbling and reluctant Republicans before the vote is actually taken in the Senate —either before March 4 or after.

But the whole subject ought to be considered in a spirit broader than that of party. Mere partisan tactics and estimates of political advantage should go for nothing in comparison with the large issues which are written so plainly on the face of the plan of reciprocity with Canada. For here we have a policy which, in a real sense, is national. The protective system, to be sure, used to boast that it was the truly national policy, but as we see it in operation today we know that it is nothing of the kind. It is, rather, the intensification of fatuous localism, every spot or place or group with a special local interest insisting upon having the general tariff law moulded to suit its particular demands, and accomplishing that result by joining hands with a thousand other petty and limited interests in order to unite their parochial self-seeking in one catch-all which they then call "national." It is not Washington that makes a protective tariff, it is Gloucester and Fernandina and Marion and Fargo. Raise back-yard views to the millionth power and you have a national policy!

Not such has been the process by which the agreement for reciprocal trade with Canada has been framed. Local interests—fishmongers and woodcutters—complain bitterly that they were not "consulted" by the President. But he was not drafting a tariff to be log-rolled through. He was shaping a trade policy for the common good. The general government, as we call it, never shows itself more truly general than when it works out a project, like this for freer trade with Canada, in which the controlling consideration is the benefit of all the people, and not the advantage or disadvantage of a few. When we see that done, we really have a national Administration acting in a national spirit. Tariff-makers might like to proceed in that way, but they cannot. They are bound by the swarming Lilliputians of local interests. But nationally-minded rulers who set about lightening tariff burdens are not so tied. They can see the problem steadily and see it whole. And there can be no doubt that the negotiators who, under President Taft's direction, worked out the Canadian agreement did so on the basis of a broadly conceived national measure. This is proved, if proof were needed, by the very fact that it is so violently attacked by embittered localities, but so generally approved by the country at large.

In following up the Payne-Aldrich tariff within less than two years by a plan to relieve the people partly of some of its worst effects, the President has incidentally thrown a great deal of light upon the inherent narrowness and selfishness of protection. In a way, a reciprocity agreement is the process of making a tariff in reverse. In order to produce that vast conglomerate known as the Payne-Aldrich law, thousands of localities pressed forward, one with its salt fish, and others with their lemons and lumber and wood-pulp and paper and steel beams and pottery, and got their due schedules. But no sooner comes along a scheme of Canadian reciprocity, drawn on national lines, than we see these local interests disintegrated instead of combining; each standing off by itself to splutter and make faces, quite unaware how small and ridiculous it looks when compared with the large good of the nation. It is when we observe the nature and sure effects of this exposure of the spirit of protectionism, seeking to put a local veto upon a great national benefit, that we get a better understanding of the powerful blow for tariff-reform that Mr. Taft has struck.

The trade agreement is meeting with some opposition in Canada, too, very much of the sort which it encounters here. There, also, the protectionists who cannot see the forests for the trees have made their protests. But the defence of the measure is the same in Canada as here—namely, that it is a truly national undertaking, intended to promote both trade and good feeling. This, too, is the sufficient answer to the wails of protest which the British Imperialists are emitting. They say that Canada should not have been allowed to enter into the agreement. But Our Lady of Snows is mistress in her own house; and any attempt now to take from her the right to make her own tariffs would evoke a national spirit more ominous than anything shown in the trade arrangement with the United States.

THE UNBUSINESSLIKE POST OFFICE.

Mr. Don C. Seitz, with that directness and vigor characteristic of all his utterances, has paid his respects to the Post Office Department in an article in the current *World's Work* which he entitles "The Post Office: An Obstructive Monopoly." If to the ordinary reader it seems as if there were a good deal of heat in this expression of opinion, it must not be forgotten that Mr. Seitz is the business head of the New York *World*, and that the publishers of the New York newspapers can always be eloquent, and are usually tempted to profanity, when it comes to speaking of the Post Office with which they are daily in touch and to which they send endless complaints from the subscribers who do not receive their newspapers regularly. So difficult has the situation become that the New York newspapers do a large amount of the Government's work for it. They themselves route, bag, and ship their mail, carrying it to the trains and delivering it themselves, thus saving the Post Office thousands upon thousands of dollars annually. This they do not do as an act of beneficent patriotism, but because they find it much cheaper to do the work themselves. In many cases it would not be done at all in time to be of use if the Department were relied upon, for, as Mr. Seitz says, the newspaper is a perishable article which loses its value if not delivered promptly. "So the newsdealer is served by express or by direct

shipment through the railroad at less than half the cost and with much more celerity and regularity than can be had through the Post Office. . . ."

An idea of the severity of Mr. Seitz's assaults upon the Department may be obtained from his statement that, "in ten years at least, the Department has never gone to Congress with a single business-increasing proposition, or with facts and figures that any human being could understand or believe." The arguments most telling with the public are the simple statement that the Canadian Post Office earned $743,102.25 net in its last fiscal year, 6.71 per cent. of its total revenue, while in Japan the Yankees of the East eke out their slender national income by a Post Office surplus of $9,850,000. Contrast this with our own deficits of $17,441,779 in 1909, and $5,848,567 in 1910, and the indictment of the United States is complete. The big drop within the last year is due to Mr. Hitchcock's efforts to economize and improve, for which he has justly been praised. No harder-working Postmaster-General ever held office. Yet it is doubtful if even he realizes clearly where the difficulty lies; that the real place where the Government's emphasis should be laid is upon bettering facilities in order not so much to save money as to increase business. Better post offices, better service, speedier and more frequent deliveries—these are some of the ways of increasing gross and net receipts.

To this the Department answers that Congress is the real stumbling-block. But first and foremost—and here we think the Postmaster-General will agree with us—the trouble is politics. No business concern could be a success which appointed its men as does the Post Office, or threw most of them out whenever it obtained a new president or general manager. To expect to find enterprising, active business men in the rural post office is ridiculous; if such are there, it is by accident and they may expect to go at any time. What is there to encourage a good man to stay in the service? It offers no career; until it does, we shall never see it on a basis comparable to that found in other countries.

A first step might well be perhaps to take the Postmaster-General out of the Cabinet and out of politics. Mr. Taft has extended the civil service rules to postmasters and is known to be ready to put all appointments on a sound basis. Once take the service out of politics and arrange some system by which good men could be induced to enter and be enabled to rise, and the ground-work for reform would be laid—provided the service could be safeguarded from dry-rot and organized like the United States Steel Company or some other well-managed corporation. The Post Office is our greatest monopoly; it ought, as Mr. Seitz says, to pay better than any industrial Trust. Instead, it is shabby, out-at-the-heels, wofully inefficient in a thousand ways, and far too often unenterprising. Berlin's service was better twenty-five years ago than New York's is to-day, and anybody who is familiar with the English service knows how impossible it is to compare ours with it, in speed, in usefulness, in accuracy. For one thing, there are no express companies there to bulldoze Parliament into forbidding a parcels post. Yet, on this side, many people who at heart desire a parcels post are afraid to urge it lest it become vastly inferior, in the Government's hands, to the present express service.

One general rule may be laid down. As in private business, the best way to obtain business is to lower rates. Certain exceptions there may perhaps be in certain classifications, but a reduction of city postage to the one-cent drop-letter rate of the Canadian posts would doubtless pay for itself. The two-cent transatlantic rate has come to stay, and must soon be extended; reducing the price has paid the world over—wherever it has been tried. Mr. Seitz would have the Department send out "business-hunters," as freight lines do—to hunt for trade, and not for votes as now—make its offices the most attractive in every town and village, and refuse to permit them to be "the last business institution to open in the average town and the first to close." Altogether, there is much sound sense in this article.

HORACE GREELEY.

Only a few weeks ago there was celebrated the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Charles Sumner, and now the like commemoration takes place of another of the leading figures in the anti-slavery movement. Few contrasts, however, could be more marked than that between Charles Sumner and Horace Greeley. Nor was this contrast merely such as turned on the difference in their antecedents, their education, and the manner of their entry upon their public careers. Sumner was a man bred in an atmosphere of culture, surrounded in his youth by exceptional advantages, and having throughout his life as much the character of an aristocratic scholar as that of a democratic statesman and agitator, whereas Greeley had a fierce struggle with poverty and remained always the typical American man of the people. But quite apart from this, there was a fundamental difference of temperament and attitude. Sumner, once embarked upon the anti-slavery fight, pursued it in the spirit of a man of one idea; Greeley, with all his humanitarian ardor and fervent advocacy, remained ever the practical politician, without fixed anchorage in permanent principles of action. In the great movement which ended in the civil war, there were many types of effective leadership; that of Garrison was as different as possible from that of Lincoln, and Greeley's cannot be classed with either of these.

The function of Greeley was not to stamp his impress upon policies, or to build up a clearly marked following on definite lines, but to awaken in the minds and hearts of millions of his countrymen the sentiment of abhorrence for slavery and the determination some way or other to bring it to an end. In the spread of this gospel through the agency of every-day journalism he was beyond all comparison the greatest force. Nor should it be imagined that in saying this one is paying tribute merely to the constancy of his advocacy. To hammer away at one subject year in and year out, in season and out of season, is a task of no special difficulty; it requires neither peculiar ability nor unusual courage. What Greeley did was to make his *Tribune* editorials on slavery fresh and interesting, to say the same thing a thousand times without fatiguing his readers. His ability to do this was due partly to his vigorous nature and his extraordinary command of racy and energetic English; but it must also in great measure be ascribed to the very fact that his interest in a great range of other subjects was almost as keen as in the dominant political issue that he represented. The socialistic theories of Fourier, the cause of temperance, the dissemination among the people of the results of modern science, the development of the new

West—all these and many other subjects evoked his ardent sympathy and coöperation.

But the question that comes uppermost to the mind in thinking of Greeley to-day is, of course, that of the change which has taken place in the nature of journalism since he founded the *Tribune*, with a capital of a thousand dollars of borrowed money, seventy years ago. It is not necessary to look upon the men of that time either as giants or as saints, in order to recognize that a profound change has come over the face of things since their day, and that in some essential respects that change is in the nature of a serious loss. Greeley was not a model of perfection, either in his judgment or in his freedom from certain common failings, such as those manifested in some of his strivings for public office. But the history of his journalistic career is that of a man who, upon the sheer basis of his character and ability, built up a newspaper whose function it was to spread through the community those views of political and social questions which he desired to promote, and that kind of instruction and enlightenment which he thought it important to propagate. Such an achievement is to-day all but impossible; and one need not be in any unreasonable degree a *laudator temporis acti* to feel that the loss is deplorable.

Nor is the change confined to this. With the investment of enormous amounts of capital in newspaper enterprises, there has been a gradual but unmistakable alteration in the purpose which is predominant in most of them, apart from any question whether the policy of the paper is or is not shaped in other respects by one strong individuality. There is now no such sense of proportion even in the better class of newspapers as used to prevail half a century ago. Inclusion or exclusion, amount of space and degree of prominence, are for a large part of the matter determined rather by attractiveness from the point of view of entertainment than by importance. In very many ways the newspapers of to-day are better than they were in Greeley's time; in point of freedom from partisan control the conditions are incomparably better now than they were then. But in regard to the general make-up of the paper as well as in regard to the association of its editorial view with the personality of its editor it is far harder in our time for a newspaper to bear the stamp of one striking individuality. Greeley's name will remain a landmark in the history of American journalism; and perhaps no more emphatic tribute can be paid to the extraordinary character of his influence as an editor than in the statement that he would undoubtedly be to-day a greater figure in history if he had not received the tribute of a nomination to the Presidency of the United States.

THE BOLL WEEVIL PANIC.

Messrs. Alfred H. Stone and Julian H. Fort, two cotton planters at Dunleith, Mississippi, have submitted to the First National Bank of Greenville a report of a recent tour of those areas of Louisiana, Texas, and Mississippi which have suffered from the boll weevil. It is a most enlightening document, and one bound to bring great comfort to those who are aware that since its appearance in 1892 this insect pest has affected an area of 225,000 square miles within the five States of Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi, and has within the past year invaded Alabama. To many frightened observers it has seemed as if King Cotton himself were doomed; as if the staple upon which the prosperity of the South is builded were going to disappear as completely as did the institution of unpaid slave labor, without which, so Southern planters and statesmen contended for decades, a cotton crop was impossible.

In that case, when the planters were compelled to pay their labor, they speedily found that they could make greater profits than before. The boll weevil is obviously no such blessing in disguise. Yet, as Messrs. Stone and Fort point out, it has already been discovered that the weevil presents instead of one problem "a variety of local problems, differing with local labor and economic conditions, and influenced by physical considerations of soil, rainfall, temperature, vegetation, drainage, etc." This is in itself most reassuring; for if the evil is one affected by local conditions, it is obviously absurd to say that it portends the end of all staple cotton growing and the breaking up of the plantation system of raising cotton on a large scale. Yet it is undeniable that in certain sections the evil that has been done is very great. The Natchez district of Mississippi has, for instance, been completely disorganized, and is to-day a country "stripped of labor, farming implements, and stock, empty houses on tenantless lands—a picture of desolation for a counterpart to which memory must return to the devastation of the civil war." In a single county, that of Adams, the cotton crop has dropped from 23,836 bales in 1906 to less than 900 in 1910, while in the same period the number of gins has decreased from 42 to 8. "The destruction is complete."

Now if all this were really due solely to the boll weevil, the outlook would be serious enough. But the encouraging fact is that the chief evil has been the failure of the human beings affected to meet the blight calmly and scientifically—encouraging because the mental balance of planters and laborers can be reëstablished. It is the psychology of the panic with which we must largely deal, for it is the panic rather than the weevil that has done most of the damage. When the panic began the merchant who advanced money to the tenants (the landlords of this district all live in the city) determined to realize what he could out of the meagre personal property which was the only asset of the negro tenants. What happened then is thus graphically described:

> The country roads leading into Natchez were filled with negroes, wagons, and mules; the streets of the town were filled with puzzled negroes, upset, disturbed, and bewildered. They knew nothing except that their merchants would carry them no longer, that they could not carry themselves, and that they had been called upon to pay what they owed or surrender what they had mortgaged. Every available pen in the city was filled with horses and mules. The planter from the Delta needed the labor, and the latter was eager to go. The planter paid the merchant an agreed price for the negro's account, loaded him and his family and household plunder on a boat or car, and brought the entire outfit home. Hundreds of negroes and carloads of live stock and personal property were thus removed from Adams and adjoining counties.

A clear picture of abject surrender without a struggle, as it is a vivid illustration of the economic slavery of the negro! Not a single planter or plantation in this district tried to demonstrate what might be done, to create confidence and to furnish an object lesson of the folly of demoralization, or to mark the way for the reëstablishment of the business upon a newer and sounder basis.

More than that, not only has human-

ity, in some sections, fled before the boll weevil, but, according to Messrs. Stone and Fort, "no other insect, since the dawn of history, has had to bear the burden piled by human nature upon the boll weevil." As soon as it appeared, every other cause of crop failure was forgotten. The army worm, the boll worm, the boll rot, the blight, shortage of labor, over-cropping of tenants—all these and a hundred other causes of poor crops, to say nothing of the human element, were ignored, and everything charged to the terrible weevil. Every worthless planter or tenant shouldered off his sins on the insect. It reminds us of an episode in the recent general election in a town in Scotland, where a once famous mill is now closed. Protectionists chalked on the door: "Free trade did this," but a lover of truth inscribed the facts, when he wrote underneath: "Whiskey and soda did this." Whiskey, shiftlessness, ignorance, inefficiency, and dishonesty seem to have come into their own in the boll weevil districts. The planter, good or bad, looking back on the past, cannot remember that he ever failed to grow less than a bale an acre.

Where men of education, means, energy, and business capacity have been face to face with the evil, they have found various ways of adjusting themselves to the situation. Sometimes, it is true, nature has been against them, as in certain parishes of Louisiana, and nature has won. One Louisiana planter, beaten in the fight against the weevil, turned at once to cane-growing, which had been the ante-bellum industry of this section, with the result that he will soon occupy the same high place as a cane-grower that he held as a cotton-planter. Other planters have found that by reducing the cotton acreage per hand and by making a change in varieties of cotton, the less prolific being abandoned for a more prolific variety, they have been able to hold their own, particularly if they have, after reducing the cotton acreage, turned their idle acres to such crops as corn, hay, peas, rice, and broom corn. In the semi-tropical districts of Louisiana, because of the great moisture and other physical conditions, such as the heavy mosses on the trees, the fight has gone hardest; but elsewhere, as, for instance, in Texas, "prosperity has come with the return of sanity and such readjustment of farming and business matters as prudence and common sense have suggested." "Cotton is still being grown, and the boll weevil has ceased to be a cause of alarm, or even a topic of conversation." Remembering the advantages which have come to the South in the past from the diversification of industries, the establishment of manufactures and mining, it is quite possible that from this point of view the boll weevil will not be by any means an altogether unmitigated evil.

THE SUPER-PROFESSORATE.

The premature retirement of a favorite professor from Princeton suggests that our academic organization may possibly not provide the right opportunities for the teacher whose *forte* is eloquence and inspiration. A faculty is lucky which boasts one or two such men. It is in every way easier to find competent specialists and diligent teachers than lecturers of eloquent and broadly interpretative quality. But the moment a Norton or a Shaler develops this superiority, the very fact produces odd and unpleasant anomalies. The course necessarily assumes an extra-academic quality, the form or presentation and the personal enthusiasm of the lecturer outweighing and properly minimizing the number of mere facts offered; but the course quite illogically continues to be treated as a routine part of the curriculum, and the lecturer is put in the absurd position of solemnly examining men on the enthusiasms he has created.

What practically happens with these courses is that they become famous in the outer world, but, being frequented by scores of the more easy-going young gentlemen, mildly scandalous at home. These courses, unless bolstered up by artificial and barely justifiable means, are always soft spots in the curriculum. Many a Harvard graduate tells of the high pleasure he had in Charles Eliot Norton's lectures on fine arts, but no one tells how often he slumbered in the consecrated peace of Sanders Theatre. Lectures that should attract the best intelligence among the students draw largely the dullards and sluggards. But imagine that such lectures were no part of the curriculum, were accompanied by no requirement of attendance or examination, meant opportunity and not duty. Immediately the attendance would be measured solely on the true scale of interest, the lecturer would stand or fall by his sheer power to charm and stimulate. It would become a clean academic transaction with no element of pretence or temptation to shirk on either side of the desk. We should have on a fair and humane basis a new office, the super-professorate.

If this looks like an odd or indefinite function, let us recall that the thing has actually produced itself in France, Germany, and Italy by a sort of natural selection. Lecturers who develop extraordinary capacity for sympathetic and popular interpretation of their subjects, insensibly liberate themselves from the task of routine instruction. The facts that one got from Hermann Grimm or Ernst Curtius in their later years at Berlin were accessible enough. No one came nearer to a doctorate, or prepared for an examination, by hearing these charming and eloquent scholars. If their lecture rooms were crowded, it was because the students delighted in the mellow culture there revealed. It was not to such professors that one applied for guidance in research or routine work of any sort. Through the development of extraordinary and valuable capacity Grimm and Curtius had emancipated themselves, had become in the fullest sense super-professors. It is the glory of the unbureaucratized universities of Germany that they so freely provide for any sort of exceptional capacity.

Do we need the super-professor in America? Emphatically, yes. If the academic air of France and Germany is more bracing than our own, it is precisely because the ideas of scholarship are generously put at the general disposal. Ideas circulate and are appraised in a manner unprecedented in our more rigid academies. We need the super-professor, but we shall probably not best get him by taking thought. Occasionally he will create himself, and then a wise university will liberate him for his proper work. Evidently, his qualifications should be sharply challenged and scrutinized. He assumes to do much more than the ordinary professor; we must satisfy ourselves that the pretension is sound. In the nature of the case there can be no steady supply of inspirational men, and that is all the more reason for getting the whole good out of them when they do occur. Something like the super-professorate is already existent in the numerous endowed lecture-

ships in our colleges and universities. A poet critic like Prof. G. E. Woodberry, with his pretty regular appearances at our universities, may fairly be called an itinerant super-professor. Doubtless there will be more lectureships, and the fighting line of the super-professorate will probably continue to be a flying column. That is no reason, however, why a great university should not on occasion domesticate a super-professor. Only if they desire the best of him they must treat him frankly as an auxiliary. The moment they enlist him too narrowly, his very popularity will begin to weaken the curriculum generally, and too often subtly to undermine his influence.

Ask any professor friend what he thinks of this plan and he will probably tell you it is clotted nonsense for the (to him) conclusive reason that the American undergraduate will not attend any course for which he is not formally booked, and for which he receives no academic credit. Our answer is that it might be worth while to treat the undergraduate as if he were intelligent and await his response. The American undergraduate after all is of one flesh and age with those fellow-students who abroad crowd the lecture-rooms of Erich Schmidt and Emile Faguet. Nor have we learned that at home such foundations as the Turnbull Lectures on Poetry at Johns Hopkins University have ever languished for lack of student support.

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES.

The epigrammatic statement of a previously obscure thinker that two thousand dollars a year is enough to live on but not sufficient to enable one to keep up appearances has been greeted with a chorus of approval that is not a little significant. Whatever one may think of the principle of conduct implied, the frank avowal of it is at least refreshing. But the really important considerations in connection with it do not relate to the familiar living beyond one's income that everybody finds it natural to denounce in everybody else. This is a fairly modern phenomenon, induced by the disappearance of hard and fast social lines on the one hand, and by the broadening of economic opportunities on the other. But there has always been, in realms far removed from the material, an endeavor, often only half-felt, at keeping up appearances, on the part of those who would scorn the thing in its grosser manifestation. What, for example, are manners for, if not to put an agreeable face upon disagreeable conditions? What is politeness, except a kind of social lubricant? Will it be seriously contended that the ceremonious attitude which is regarded as proper to be assumed toward strangers is even skin deep? It is almost ludicrous to see the tragic air with which we offer our apologies to an unknown human being with whom we have mistakenly taken liberties that are recognized as insufferable by any except our long-enduring friends. And yet the sincerest scoffer at any form of keeping up appearances is, as a rule, scrupulously careful to do nothing, however trivial, that in his circle would be termed ungentlemanly.

It is difficult to see how civilization could get along without a continual practice of keeping up appearances. Suppose a lawyer, in a burst of confidence, told the judge that he did not really care a continental for the ruling he was so strenuously arguing for, but that what he was actually after was the satisfaction of victory and the professional advantage of a successful case. Imagine a surgeon casually remarking to you just before the ether blotted out everything, that while as a fellow man he was sorry for you, you were the subject he had long been hoping might come his way, and that he looked for an hour or two of the keenest intellectual delight. Think of a politician asking for votes on the ground that he wanted a place where he should be prominent and sought after. Conjure up a broker regaling his customers with the information that a commission and not the financial prosperity of his patrons was nearest his heart. How many hours would the fabric of our social order hold together under such mad veracity?

One of the most noteworthy appearances which the generality of mankind have always felt a supposed necessity of preserving is that of consistency. Despite Emerson's tempting quotation, a man is likely to offer an elaborate justification of any divergence from what is known to be his past record, or, if he can at all manage it, to show that the lapse is only apparent, and that, in reality, his latest action squares exactly with all his former ones. Even if he falls back upon Emerson, it is with a self-conscious air of employing a doubtful makeshift that deceives, and is intended to deceive, no one, least of all himself. In the bottom of his heart, he believes, with the rest of his fellows, that there is something irregular, if not sinister, about a change in professed ideas or practice. All the ingenuity of logicians has not evolved a more effective argument than the *tu quoque*, a form of reasoning which they try to discredit by putting it among the fallacies and labelling it *argumentum ad hominem*. But, so long as man is man and not a syllogistic machine, he will regard the retort as worth a whole armory of certified dialectic weapons.

It is impossible to examine our devotion to appearances without having our respect for it strengthened. Like other instincts, it often goes astray, but it is fundamentally a tribute to our aspiration to be more than we are, and perhaps more than we can be. What we do when we keep up an appearance is to assume the rôle of a character which, at best, we should like to be, and, at worst, do not dare not to seem to be. Keeping up appearances at somebody's else expense is inexcusable, but the honoring of noble sentiments and practices for what they are on their face is the short-cut we have taken toward our ideals.

TWO FRENCH PUBLICATIONS.

PARIS, January 24.

The final volume of Henry Vignaud's monumental work on the life of Columbus up to the time of his discoveries is about to be published in Paris. Your correspondent has had the privilege of reading advance sheets of the general recapitulation and conclusion of the work. Like the previous volumes, it is written in French. Of Mr. Vignaud's earlier work in this matter, "Toscanelli and Columbus," with two letters in the ensuing controversy, and "A Critical Study on the Various Dates Assigned to the Birth of Columbus" had English editions.

It will be remembered that Henry Vignaud was for more than thirty years secretary of the United States legation and embassy at Paris, and that ten years ago he began publishing the results of a long and laborious lifetime's critical study in the original sources of the history of Columbus. These final volumes form the completest repertory existing of such history, in its original documents and its controversies; and they give in detail each of its events in the light of that serious and enlightened

criticism which has become possible only with the wealth of material placed at the historian's disposition in these recent years. They also show, as Mr. Vignaud earnestly remarked to your correspondent, that "I am not a contemner of Columbus, an iconoclast, as I have been termed."

I have endeavored to extract from Mr. Vignaud's pages, in his own words, the substance of the conclusions to which he has come:

"The results of this critical examination, which has been the object of my work and which my readers are enabled to follow in all its phases, are summed up in the three following propositions which change our whole conception of the conditions in which the discovery of the New World was prepared and accomplished:

"(1.) The object of Columbus was not originally to go to the Indies; his expedition was made solely to discover new islands and lands.

"(2.) He had what he believed to be sure indications of the existence and situation of such islands and lands—indications which must have come to him mainly from the unnamed pilot to whom public rumor gave so great a part in his first discovery.

"(3.) The documents attributed to Toscanelli, which would show, if we relied on them, that the original design of Columbus was to go to the Indies, were produced only to make it be believed that such had been his design, and they cannot be authentic.

"These propositions are so contrary to those which Columbian tradition has finally caused to be accepted that it is well to recall with some exactness the reasons on which they are based.

"The assertion of Columbus, repeated by his two first biographers, and, it may be said, accepted by all modern authors, that his design consisted in going to the Indies by sailing to the west; that it was this which the Catholic Kings ordered him to do, and that it was this which he undertook to carry out, is confirmed by no document, by no testimony, which has not a Columbian origin.

"On the contrary, documents and testimonies show:

"That there is no trace of Columbus ever speaking of going to the Indies, either to the King of Portugal or to the Catholic Kings;

"That it is not that which King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella charged him to undertake, nor that which they supposed he would do;

"That what he undertook to do was to discover new islands and lands, of whose existence he had had indications;

"That the indications which gave him the certainty of finding what he proposed to discover, and which permitted him to assert that they would find land 700 or 750 leagues off, came from testimonies as to the existence of new islands to the west, which he had carefully gathered, and, in particular, from a pilot, who had by accident touched at one of the islands;

"That for no one, at the departure of the expedition, was there any question of going to the East Indies, and for every one there was question only of new discoveries;

"That it was only after they had reached the Antilles, which were discovered far beyond the distance at which they believed they should find land, that Columbus imagined he was in the Indies and in the vicinity of Cathay;

"That, on his return, he declared he had come back from the Indies, of which there had been no question before, and he applied himself to finding theoretic reason to justify such an illusion, under the empire of which he undertook his three other voyages—an illusion which he kept until his death;

"That it was after his second voyage, whence he returned with the conviction that Cuba was a projection of Asia, and after his third expedition, in which he discovered the continent, which confirmed him in his illusions, that he completed his theory of the littleness of the globe and the proximity of the Indies—a theory first formulated by him in 1498;

"That Behaim, who had exactly the same ideas, had made them known probably as early as 1489, and certainly in 1491 and 1492, at the time of the construction of his globe, and in July, 1493, the date of a letter now well known which he caused to be written by Müntzer;

"That it is chiefly in the 'Imago Mundi,' in the 'Historia Rerum,' and in the relation of Marco Polo that both Behaim and Columbus found the essential elements of the cosmographic theory which they held in common;

"That the documents attributed to Toscanelli had nothing to do with the formation of such ideas in the discoverer of America and in the author of the Nuremberg globe, each of whom has informed us exactly of the sources from which they drew;

"That these documents (attributed to Toscanelli), whose existence no one suspected, were produced in the middle of the sixteenth century only to confirm the Columbian version that the expedition of 1492 had the Indies for its aim.

"The true merit of Columbus, that which really distinguishes him from all the sea adventurers of his time, that which places him among the privileged men who have added to the sum of our knowledge, is that he drew from all the vague, uncertain, and for the most part erroneous indications which were given him the right conclusion that land existed there, where America is found, and that he took as a fact this hypothetic conclusion which experience demonstrated was the reality."

"Après l'Abandon de la Revanche" (A. Lemerre: 500 pages, 3.50 francs), by Madame Juliette Adam, has stirred more patriotic and party feeling than any other book of the season. It is the seventh and last volume of highly personal notes, taken during a long lifetime identified with the growth of the Third French Republic. Of more than one of its founders, Gambetta at the head, it has been said that Madame Adam had the task of taming and polishing them for their work. She remained a sort of godmother of the new republic, until she saw plainly, in her own mind, that Gambetta's policy was giving the republic a permanent trend whither she would not go, and away from all that she had hoped. It is this last volume which, day by day, notes her dismay and anguish "after the abandonment of the Revanche"—the abandonment of all effort on the part of the republic to heal the ever-gaping wound and mutilation which the old France had suffered from her war with Germany.

Since the publication of her book, Madame Adam has felt obliged to answer the reproach of Paul Déroulède that she accuses Gambetta of "criminal connivance" with Bismarck. She refuses to accept the responsibility of such "big words," but once more speaks out her whole mind (*Figaro*, January 12, 1911).

No matter whether Bismarck and Gambetta met together or not, their political and diplomatic understanding had anti-Clericalism for its basis—the same passion in the author of the *Culturkampf* and in the orator who was the enemy of Clericalism. It is not astonishing that out of this should come the French policy which I have styled "Bismarckian." The diplomatic understanding of Gambetta and Bismarck had its full reward. At the congress of Berlin the future laying of hands on Tunis by France was treacherously drafted in order to embroil us with Italy and throw the latter into the Triple Alliance. . . .

I have not written this seventh volume of my memoirs for those of my time; they already know what to think of the Franco-Bismarckian policy. This is the only name to give to it in its anti-Clerical action, in its colonial expansion, in its turning us away from Alsace-Lorraine. I have written it for the young who no longer understand anything about it, and confound the deplorable state of present policy with republican principles. I, too, am republican in principle, and shall remain so; I have never sought or accepted the slightest profit or honor for my ideas. . . . I would only strengthen my unreserved respect for Gambetta, the heroic tribune of the National Defence; but I am more than ever resolved, from the evidence of its results, to condemn his borrowed policy of the *Culturkampf* and diplomacy subjected to Bismarckian influence. And to intensify in me this worship of the past, I repeat over to myself words which Gambetta himself, on the eve of his fatal accident, said to M. de Marcère—words behind which he passed in review all his political disillusionments, and, I cannot doubt it, the ideal of the

Revanche with them: "Dear friend, everything has to be begun over!"

A few words from Senator de Marcère himself serve as preface to the book. They explain as well, perhaps, as can be what must have been an underlying divergence of principle and aim all along. After all these years, in which the policy of their common friend Gambetta has borne its full fruit, he addresses Madame Adam:

You and I, dear friend, were carried away by our dream, and we had faith, not only in our ideas, but in our companions as well, whereas, in reality, they were working at another task than ours.

S. D.

NEWS FOR BIBLIOPHILES.

It has been definitely announced in the English papers that the great library formed by Henry Huth (1815-1878) and later owned by his son, Alfred Henry Huth (whose death last October was noted in this column), has been placed in the hands of Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge for sale. It will be offered for a time privately *en bloc*, but if unsold the books will be put up at auction in instalments, the sales beginning the present season and continuing the next year. Fifty books are first to be selected by the British Museum, as indicated in the following paragraph from the will of the late owner:

If at any time it should be found necessary to sell the collection, before such sale the authorities of the British Museum are to have the first selection of a gift of fifty items therefrom, which shall be marked by them and always known as the Huth Bequest. In making this selection the authorities shall not be allowed to take a second or more perfect copy of any item already in the National Collection, unless they shall exchange such item for the one already in their possession, the exchange of any item being counted as one of the fifty for their selection.

The Huth library is perhaps the finest private collection of book rarities remaining in England. Its value has been estimated at £250,000. It is not as large and probably not as valuable as the Robert Hoe collection, which will be sold by the Anderson Auction Co. in this city, the first sale, about twenty sessions, to be held in March. In many respects, however, the two libraries might be compared. In incunabula and English literature before 1700 they are not far dissimilar. In later English literature the Huth library contains comparatively little, whereas the Hoe Library has a rich collection. French literature, which forms one of the most important sections of the Hoe library, is less notable in the Huth collection, which is, however, rich in Spanish books. Both libraries contain famous collections of Americana, but, especially in early English books of travel to America, the Huth collection is the finer. And, though Mr. Huth owned some fine illuminated manuscripts, their value cannot approximate those brought together by Mr. Hoe.

The Hoe library has two specimens of the Gutenberg Bible, one on vellum and one on paper; the Huth library has a paper copy. Both contain fine sets of the four folios of Shakespeare, Mr. Hoe's first folio being the taller, 13⅝ inches, whereas Mr. Huth's is only 12½. Both libraries contain a notable collection of the quartos, the Huth being the better, including the "Merrie Wives of Windsor" of 1602 and the "Hamlet" of 1604, as well as the "Venus and Adonis" (1594), "Lucreece" (1594), and the "Sonnets" (1609).

It is certainly a remarkable circumstance that two such collections of books should be upon the auction market at once. Collectors of literary rarities will have opportunities offered them within the next eighteen months which will probably never occur again. The Edward E. Ayer collection of Americana has been permanently transferred to the Newberry library, in Chicago; the John Boyd Thacher collection of incunabula is in the custody of the Library of Congress, probably never to leave it, and other collections are likely to find their way into public institutions.

In the second part of the library of Judge Jacob Klein of St. Louis, to be sold by the Anderson Auction Co. on February 15 and 16, are included notable collections of first editions of Meredith, Stevenson, and Swinburne. The Meredith set includes presentation copies of both the "Poems" (1851) and "The Shaving of Shagpat" (1856), the author's first and second books, as also the private issue of "Jump to Glory Jane" (1889); the signed contracts with his publisher for the issue of several books; and several fine letters. Among the Stevenson rarities are the author's first book, "The Pentland Rising" (1866); the two scientific pamphlets, "Notice of a New Form of Intermittent Light for Light Houses" (1871) and "On the Thermal Influence of Forests" (1873); a set of four numbers of the *Edinburgh University Magazine* (1871); the three privately printed plays, "Deacon Brodie" (1880), "Admiral Guinea" (1884), and "Beau Austin" (1884); several of the Davos Platz leaflets; and the South Sea Island skit, "An Object of Pity," printed at Sydney for Lady Jersey.

The Swinburne collection is the finest ever offered at auction, beginning with the "Undergraduate Papers" (1858), which contains the author's first published writings. Only some five or six copies are known, and no copy, we believe, has appeared in the auction room since the Rogers sale in Boston, in 1888. That copy brought $105, and was bought by Mrs. N. Q. Pope. It is now in the Frederick R. Halsey collection.

Other authors whose works are represented in this sale are Lowell, Joaquin Miller, Walter Pater, Tennyson, William Watson, and Walt Whitman. There are also included very extensive series of the publications of the Riverside and Roycroft presses.

On February 14, 15, and 16 the Merwin Clayton Sales Co. will sell the library of the late Elliot Smith of Morristown, N. J., including nearly a hundred lots of Napoleonana, and on February 17 a further selection of duplicates from the New York Public Library, mainly Americana.

Correspondence

SINGLE TAX.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: In November you published an interesting editorial, entitled "The Backbone of Socialism," in which you attacked (successfully, it seemed to me) the Socialist saying that "Interest is robbery."

On November 27 you published a letter from me in which I requested you to break the backbone of the single tax, which is based, in its ethical aspects at least, on the proposition that "Rent is robbery."

Now, while the Socialist party will undoubtedly modify our public institutions to some extent, it is inconceivable to me that the people will ever consent to have their government take over and operate the factories and stores. But the single tax propaganda is a different matter. The machinery of taxation exists. All that is necessary for putting the single tax in operation is to abolish all other forms of taxation save that on land values, and many of these taxes are now hardly ever defended except as a present necessity.

Those who have read the campaign speeches of Mr. Asquith, Lloyd George, Churchill, and others in the year of 1910 know that they defend the budget land tax from the standpoint of Henry George. Their illustrations and arguments—especially those of the chancellor—sound much like the utterances of American single-taxers.

The idea may be said to be firmly established in English politics. It is already a practical political question in Denmark, principally on the demand of the small farmers, about whom Mr. Spence is so anxious. One thousand western Canadians went to Ottawa recently and demanded a reduction of taxation on imports and an increase in the taxation of the land. The single-taxers are well organized in several countries, and now have money, largely through the generosity of Joseph Fels of Philadelphia. In his speech here the other day Mr. Fels said that he was on his way to Vancouver, where they have abolished local taxes on buildings and personal property, and where they have a single-tax mayor named Taylor. At his own expense, Mr. Fels is going to take Mayor Taylor to England to tell the British people how the land value tax works in British Columbia.

I could give more facts tending to show that the single tax movement is likely to become disturbing to existing conditions and to that class who want things left alone. It is worthy of more space in the press. And it seems to me that the only way to block the single-taxers is to prove to the people that rent is not robbery; in other words, that increase in the value of the land, morally as well as legally, belongs to the land owners.

Howard M. Holmes.

Cleveland, O., January 19.

THE FORTIFICATION OF THE ISTHMIAN CANAL.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The question of fortifying the Isthmian Canal is now before us and is likely to have a strong bearing upon international affairs. If we feel that it is necessary to fortify this canal in order to protect ourselves from encroachment, it will show to the whole world a distrust of others that they do not show toward us. Can we, one of the most powerful nations on the globe, afford to put ourselves in such a position? I do not deprecate so much the fifteen or fifty million dollars that will be wasted in such fortifications, or the expense of keeping them up, as I do showing in such a pronounced way our distrust of other nations. Would it not be well at this time to

consider carefully the necessity for any fortification of the canal; to consider the security of its position three to five thousand miles away from any force that could seriously menace it; to consider the peaceful relations existing between ourselves and others, and the very strong desire of all nations to maintain these relations—the necessity, in fact, for retaining them for the self interest of all; and in addition to this situation to consider our natural advantages and power—to consider also the general sentiment of the world in favor of unfortified highways of commerce, and the almost certain establishment at The Hague of a judicial court for settling the difficulties that may arise among the nations? Are not the risks of fortifying this canal greater to us and to the other nations than the risk of its destruction?

EDWIN GINN.

Boston, January 31.

COMMERCIAL ENGLISH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It is well known that language reflects national character. It is also an obvious commonplace that Americans as a people are occupied, preoccupied, with the acquisition of wealth. It is not unnatural, therefore, that American speech should be colored by the commercial activities of American people. Such has unfortunately been too much the case. The distinctive features that reveal an American's nationality are not only his pronunciation, or "accent," as the English have come to call it, his peculiarly American names for things, and the well-known tags of conversation, such as "I guess," but what we may call a commercial tone coming from his figurative use of business terms when speaking of subjects outside the realm of business.

This tendency in American speech has long been struggled against. In the well-known *index expurgatorius* prepared by William Cullen Bryant, in the middle of last century, when he was editor of the *Evening Post*, there were a number of words which were objectionable, because of the fringe of commercial associations attached to them, and which made them out of keeping in the expression of ideas more independent of trade. Some of these cant words of commerce proscribed by Bryant were *balance* (for remainder), *endorse* (for approve), *loan* (for lend), *item* (for particle, extract, or paragraph), *over his signature, parties* (for persons), *posted* (for informed), *realized* (for obtained). Even certain words less obviously of middle-class origin had in this country acquired a commercial connotation to such an extent as to be objectionable; for instance, *repudiate*. Still other words acquired new and unauthorized uses, such as *claim* (for contend), *located* (for situated).

The efforts of men like Bryant have been to some extent successful. Many of these words have been distinctly branded as vulgar. Others, such as *item*, which have been used by careful writers, have been so used because they have shaken off, to a great extent, their objectionable associations. The source of the evil, however, has not been, and, in the nature of things, cannot be, removed. Every teacher of English composition has to struggle against the use of words of commercial connotation. In the compositions that he is called upon to read, he encounters not only the words singled out by Bryant, but others of their kind. He finds that *average* stands for *ordinary, sample* for *instance, figure out* for *make out*. If one may judge by the language used in composition courses, the young American thinks only in terms of percentage, since the word *part* is quite superseded by *per cent*. Worst of all is the word *proposition*. This word is of interest to the etymologist because it promises to repeat the history of the word *thing*, which in its origin meant something not unlike the literal meaning of *proposition*. But *proposition* at present is probably the most universal term of commercial cant, and may be said to exemplify the faults of its kind.

As has been said, thus far the opposition to words of this objectionable class has met with some success. Allied with Bryant and his like against a commercialized vocabulary have been most of the forces of English teaching. In recent times, however, there has begun a movement in education which threatens to weaken the forces of opposition. The high schools of the country, actuated by the laudable desire of serving their communities, have been installing commercial courses of all kinds. The colleges also have not only been establishing courses in commerce, but in parts of the country, propose to recognize commercial courses in the high schools for entrance credit. The North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, which, as its name implies, includes the principal schools and colleges of the Middle West, in a recently published report recommends for recognition for entrance credit seven units in commercial subjects, among them a half unit in business spelling and correspondence. The half unit in business spelling and correspondence is defined as "preliminary review of five hundred common business words. Thorough drill on business correspondence, including . . ." In some of the text-books for such a course, I have recognized the effort on the part of the authors to teach the avoidance of many of the stereotyped forms of commercial phraseology. But can such efforts be effectual? When five hundred words are used as a basis of instruction, is the English language not reduced to a business code? Can such a course do more than give a superficial polish? If old, stereotyped forms of expressions are eliminated, new ones are bound to come into being. The only way to avoid hackneyed phraseology is by learning the resources of the whole language, not of merely a selected five hundred words.

G. H. MCKNIGHT.

Ohio State University, January 28.

SHYLOCK AND ATHEISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: According to the report of my paper read at the Modern Language Association, in the *Nation* of January 5, I made Shylock out an atheist. What I said was that in keeping with ancient superstitious notions of the Jew as an atheist and possessed of the devil, he was represented as a devil and an atheist in Elizabethan popular literature and drama. Of atheism Shakespeare says nothing, but he has Shylock, as a Jew, called a devil in jest nine times over, has him declare that "he never felt the curse on his nation till now"—that is, now that his diamond is gone, which cost him two thousand ducats in Frankfort—and has Tubal and him meet at the synagogue, *ein Teufels Nest*, in the urbane phrase of Luther, to batch his plot.

ELMER E. STOLL.

Western Reserve University, January 20.

"MILTON NO PLAGIARY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In connection with the correspondence on Milton's debt to Du Bartas, it may be worth while to recall the Reply of John Douglas, afterwards Bishop of Salisbury, to William Lauder, who published in 1750 a pamphlet on Milton's Use and Imitation of the Moderns in Paradise Lost. The Reply of Douglas ("Milton No Plagiary") appeared in the same year, and convicted Lauder of forging whole lines of Staphorstius, Masenius, Grotius, etc., which were to be Milton's originals. Du Bartas is only once mentioned, and that slightly.

The Reply was so conclusive that Lauder was not only disclaimed by Dr. Johnson, who had written his Preface (Boswell iii, vii), but by his very booksellers, who publicly advertised that they would have nothing more to do with him ("Select Works of Douglas," 1820, p. 226).

J. BONAR.

Ottawa, February 1.

THE MOST FAMOUS NOSE OF ALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Since the discussion on noses in your columns will not down, let me add to your collection the most written-about nose in all literature—that of a Herr Wahl, on which the poet Haug wrote two hundred witty epigrams, under the title of "Zweihundert Hyperbeln auf Herrn Wahls ungeheure Nase." This curious nosegay has served to keep the name of the author fragrant. Haug was a friend and classmate of Schiller's. The "Hyperbeln" appeared in 1804.

G. P.

New York, January 31.

"PESSIMISTIC" AND "OPTIMISTIC."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your kind review (*Nation*, February 2) of my recent volume on "The History of Ethics Within Organized Christianity," your reviewer raises one question in my mind upon which I should like to have your mature judgment. He speaks of "too pessimistic," and in another place of "a superficially optimistic." Now, the question in my mind is whether this is not robbing philosophy of two much needed terms when we have in English the words "hopeful" and "despondent." What your reviewer meant was a too despondent view of Christianity. Pessimism means the worst possible—how can you have a "too worst possible"? Optimism means the best possible—how can one have a superficially best possible? I am not a purist; indeed, I am somewhat of a Philistine with regard to innovations, because I regard language as a living thing, but the misuse of optimism

and pessimism savors for me of that careless use of academic slang characteristic of so many of us. In point of fact, hopeful and despondent are far better words, and really express what most people mean when they use optimism and pessimism. I have the same feeling with regard to the word "conservative" used as a careless substitute for "cautious," and I notice even the careful *Nation* speaks of "a conservative view of the financial situation," meaning by that a cautious attitude to that same situation. I know these abuses are widely prevalent, but I think the *Nation* might serve us all by calling attention to an impoverishment of language on one side, with no corresponding enrichment on the other.

THOMAS C. HALL.

Union Theological Seminary, February 6.

[The *Nation* agrees heartily with Dr. Hall in his dislike of the cant use of "pessimistic" and "optimistic," and its rule is to avoid the words. In the present instance "despondent" and "hopeful" would have been better English. The propriety of limiting "pessimistic," granting the word itself is properly used, by "too," etc., is, however, another question. The superlative force of "pessimism" seems to have become obscured, and the word seems to mean no more than looking systematically on the dark side of things. Why cannot these superlatives which have passed into mere intensives be modified quantitatively?—ED. NATION.]

DIARY OF DR. HOLYOKE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: At the Stickney sale of manuscripts held at Libbie's auction rooms in Boston, December 18, 1907, there was sold (number 418 in the catalogue) the diary for the year 1747 of Edward Holyoke, catalogued as president of Harvard College. In reality, the diary was kept by Edward Augustus Holyoke, M.D. (Harvard, 1746). The Essex Institute is preparing for the press a volume containing the diaries of Dr. Holyoke, his wife, and other members of the family, and greatly desires to ascertain the present whereabouts of this diary for the year 1747. Libbie & Co. no longer have the records of that particular sale, and thus far the Essex Institute has been unable to trace the item. Can any reader supply a clue? GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

Salem, Mass., January 31.

THE STATE HISTORIAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I wish to add my voice to those which, I hope, in large numbers are asking for the reappointment of Mr. Victor H. Paltsits, as State historian of New York. To those who, as outsiders, but as outsiders warmly interested in the progress of historical studies in this country, have observed the work of the State historian's office during the last ten years, the contrast between Mr. Paltsits's work and all that preceded is very striking. He has lifted the office to a higher, indeed to the highest, plane. He has not only put forth work of great utility and marked by the utmost excellence of execution, but he has shown in his various reports that he has the requisite intelligence, foresight, and judgment to decide what is best worth doing in that position, and to devise the best means for doing it.

I have abundant means of knowing that what I have said represents the general opinion of American historical students. They would regard the reappointment of Mr. Paltsits as the obviously appropriate step, and would consider it a distinct calamity that any change should be made in the office at the present time.

J. FRANKLIN JAMESON.

Carnegie Institution, Washington, February 4.

SELLING LETTERS OF THE LIVING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The estate of the late Edmund Clarence Stedman was closed in August, 1909, all the property being at that time turned over to the executor of Mr. Arthur Stedman and to the granddaughter of Mr. E. C. Stedman. I, as executor, was anxious to retain control of the property until the library could be disposed of in accordance with the wishes of my kinsman, as stated in his will and repeatedly impressed upon me during his lifetime. As literary executor, also, I was very desirous of entrusting the editing of the "Life and Letters" to a man of literary reputation and experience. The counsel of the estate, however, advised me that, the legal term of eighteen months having expired, the heirs would force me to show a more valid reason for retaining the executorship, and I was obliged to retire. The executor should not be charged with any responsibility for this scandalous sale of the confidences of Mr. Stedman's friends, for it was as painful to him as it was to them, or could have been to that sensitive and honorable soul himself. THOMAS L. STEDMAN.

New York, January 29.

Literature

AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.

A Documentary History of American Industrial Society. Edited by John R. Commons, Ulrich B. Phillips, Eugene A. Gilmore, Helen L. Sumner, and John B. Andrews. Vols. V, VI. Labor Movement, 1820-40; Selected, Collated, and Edited by John R. Commons, Professor of Political Economy, University of Wisconsin, and Helen L. Sumner, United States Bureau of Labor. Vols. VII, VIII. Labor Movement, 1840-1860, Selected, Collated, and Edited by John R. Commons. Vol. IX. Labor Movement, 1860-1880, Selected, Collated, and Edited by John R. Commons, and John B. Andrews, Secretary, American Association for Labor Legislation. Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Co.

With the appearance of volume nine, this comprehensive assemblage of documents is all but complete. The tenth volume, with which it will conclude, is not yet issued, but will contain only two chapters of text proper, to which an exhaustive analytical index to the entire series will be annexed. The first two volumes were devoted to plantation economics prior to the civil war. These volumes were reviewed in the *Nation*, October 13, 1910. Volumes three and four, with an extra supplementary volume (not separately numbered), contained the records of early labor conspiracy cases in the United States from 1806 to 1842. As indicated in the notice of these volumes in the *Nation* for December 15, 1910, the editor employed these judicial records mainly to substantiate his contention that in this country the origin of a self-conscious working class is traceable, not to a change in the technique of production, as the Marxian formula asserts, but to the menace of competition arising from the extension of markets. The labor movement proper, in its various phases, from 1820 to 1880, is illustrated in the six concluding volumes.

Professor Commons has chosen to subdivide this period of sixty years into three equal parts, and has devoted a brace of volumes to each double decade. His principle of dividing the epoch is not mechanical, however, but is based upon the periodic fluctuation of general prices, witnessed in every score of years. During the upward swing of trade, labor is worked full time and overtime. The rising cost of living provokes the laborers to organization. They strike for higher wages. The employers make wage advances which prove inadequate to meet the still rising cost of living. Finally the turn in the tide of prosperity comes. Wage reductions are for a time resisted, but finally prove inevitable. Labor organizations are disrupted, and their fragments are diverted into channels of political or social agitation. "This cycle has been so consistently repeated, although with varying shades and details, that it has compelled recognition in the selection and editing of the documents of this series" (Vol. V, pp. 19, 20). Professor Commons even contends that the curve of prices, representing their rise, culmination, and fall in each of these twenty-year periods, "is the backbone of American history." One does not need to subscribe to this rather sweeping generalization, in order to see that the price-cycle furnishes an admirable basis for subdividing the history of the labor movement in this country.

Local organizations of craftsmen in the United States can be traced as far back as 1786. But not until 1827, when the Mechanics' Union of Trade Associations was formed in Philadelphia to promote a ten-hour working day, was there any symptom of a coalition of different trade organizations for a common object. Similar city-wide or county-wide organizations emerged in New York, in Boston, in Baltimore, Washington,

Newark, N. J., and in Albany before 1840. In a general way they ran a similar course, winning the majority of early strikes until the tide of prosperity receded. Thereafter they frequently originated short-lived political movements in their respective vicinities. Even more significant than these vicinal unions were the attempts to organize wage-earners into national unions. Their conventions of 1834, 1835, and 1836 are notable for the extended areas from which delegates were drawn. An interesting parallel movement in the same period was the organization of particular crafts, such as the cordwainers and the printers, upon a national scale. The platforms of the city-central unions, as well as of the wider national unions, voice the grievances of the wage-earners of the late '30's. Some of their demands, such as that for free and universal public instruction, have so long been conceded that we read with surprise the stigmatization of "agrarianism" which the conservative element brought against the project (Vol. V, p. 110 sq.). The condition of laborers, especially the hours of women and children in factories, is repeatedly denounced, as well as many other evils which modern legislation is fast remedying. Just how far the monopoly of public lands was felt as a pressing grievance by wage-earners' unions it is somewhat difficult to determine; but prominence is generally given it in the enumeration of evils requiring remedy. Professor Commons declares that "what the working man of the thirties asked was not meré equality before the law," but "a preference over property," the preference being typified in homestead exemption laws, free education, and mechanics' prior lien. It is worthy of notice that the allurements of coöperative industrial organization had in this early period begun to appeal to associated labor. These two volumes, dealing with the period 1820-1840, are in some respects of more importance than any other pair of volumes in the set. They rescue from oblivion the beginnings of labor movements organized upon a scale other than parochial; and they permit us to form some just idea of the extent to which public opinion of a later day has travelled to adopt what were denounced originally as monstrous and subversive doctrines. The "documents" *en appui* are mostly newspaper accounts of the demands of laborers, supplemented by the proceedings of labor conventions.

The two volumes covering the years from 1840 to 1860 (Vols. VII and VIII) suffer necessarily from the humanitarian avalanche of that era. The history of labor organization is crossed by Fourierism; by Owenism; by the various socialistic experiments, like the Shakers, the Rappists, and the Icarians; by coöperation; by Evans's agrarianism; and last by the abolition movement. It was a confused and perplexing epoch. Professor Commons well characterizes it in his Introduction to Volume VII:

> The forties far outran the other periods in its [*sic*] unbounded loquacity. The columns of advertisements in a newspaper might announce for Monday night a meeting of the anti-slavery society: Tuesday night, the temperance society; Wednesday night, the graham bread society; Thursday night, a phrenological lecture; Friday night an address against capital punishment; Saturday night, the "Association for Universal Reform." Then there were all the missionary societies, the woman's rights societies, the society for the diffusion of bloomers, the séances of the spiritualists, the "associationists," the land reformers—a medley of movements that found the week too short.

No two volumes—no, nor twenty—could fairly compass this reformatory chaos. From this welter of conflicting doctrines and movements, it is almost a wonder that there finally emerged the embryo of modern trade unionism. But surmounting the sporadic and local labor movements, the purely beneficial labor association, and the coöperative labor store system, there had appeared by 1853-54, the class-conscious trade union, pure and simple, "unduped of fancy," grimly confining itself to establishing the minimum wage and the closed shop. Its weapon was the strike. Its method was collective bargaining, which fixed for a stipulated period wages, hours, and conditions of employment. Although the vortex of war swallowed up, for a time, all lesser interests, the type of union fittest for ultimate survival had made its appearance.

If the seventh and eighth volumes make an impression of fragmentariness, by reason of the variety of social reform projects touched upon, the ninth volume appears to make an almost arbitrary selection of topics to illustrate the labor movement between 1860 and 1880. The crisis of 1857 and the civil war had wrought havoc with the effectiveness of national labor organizations. But the subsequent rise of prices due to monetary inflation, and the speculative mania, following the war, called back into existence the national labor organization. This movement, under the name of the National Labor Union, grew in momentum under the influence of annual congresses between 1866 and 1871. While at first espousing the traditional shibboleths, particularly emphasizing the eight-hour day, and still coquetting with coöperation as the goal of economic organization, the new national organization soon fell into the swamp of Greenbackism; organized as the Labor Reform party; eventually nominated a Presidential candidate, Judge David Davis; and finally came to naught. The concluding section of the volume recounts how the decline and fall of this ill-starred movement was carefully noted by the recently formed American branch of the International, and was duly reported (Vol. IX, p. 366 sq.) to the General Council of the International at London. Besides these two episodes just cited, a display of labor conditions dealing largely with immigration, particularly of the Chinese, and typical extracts from Ira Steward's little known philosophy of the eight-hour movement comprise the substance of the volume.

The work, as a whole, is perhaps the most comprehensive non-official compilation of sources upon any one aspect of our economic history that has so far been issued. The ten volumes, though distinctly unequal in value, will be indispensable to the future investigator of our industrial conditions. The first two stand quite apart from the remainder of the series, so far as subject matter is concerned. The name of the work, as a whole, is seriously misleading. It does not begin to canvass the field it professedly covers. American industrial society cannot be compressed within the limits of labor organization movements, either quantitatively or qualitatively. But the ten volumes are a mine from which serviceable material must be quarried for any historical edifice devoted to a portrayal of our industrial constitution.

CURRENT FICTION.

Princess Flower Hat. By Mabel Osgood Wright. New York: The Macmillan Co.

The "Commuter's Wife" is repeating herself after the fashion of the sprightly performer who once more responds to the expected encore. The vivacious heroine appears here under a new and fantastic name; but she is only too easily recognized. The mild neighborhood romance in which she is involved, with its frequent horticultural digressions, has little novelty to commend it. The young person with the fanciful nickname is a city girl who conceives a sudden passion for country life. She buys an old house in the neighborhood of the commuter and his wife, with an acre of land. The place next door belongs to a rather mysterious absentee, the subject of not very flattering local gossip. Of course, as soon as he discovers that he is Flower Hat's neighbor, he ceases to be an absentee. The conclusion is foregone. Flower Hat accepts the neighborhood gossip at its face value, and straightway begins a course of such rudeness as is hardly possible for gentlewomen outside of fiction. A very pretty quarrel is begun, in which his hired man and her hired woman take the low comedy parts. But we all know at the outset that the excursions and alarums incident to this kind of battle are of merely ornamental character. One's interest in a re-treatment of the

old situation must be a tribute to its freshness and spontaneity. This performance is rather strained. Princess Flower Hat is a flippant and self-consciously whimsical person such as lady story-tellers delight in and men avoid.

The Gift-Wife. By Rupert Hughes. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co.

The triumphant adventures of young America abroad are here pleasantly varied by a few simple changes in personnel and itinerary. The hero is a Yale man, but not oppressively athletic, and instead of hailing from Wall Street, he is no better than a surgeon. Moreover, he is a periodical drunkard. His sprees last two or three weeks, and he never knows where he has been or what he has done when he comes to himself. His conduct during these balmy intervals, however, is merely eccentric. He becomes a different person, but not an offensive or helpless one. Hence it is only necessary to place him in Europe at the beginning of one of his weird seizures, in order to insure complications desirable from the point of view of the romancer. Matters are complicated by the fact that he has just been put in charge of a little girl whom he is to take back with him to America. He knows what he has to fight against, but accident puts it out of his power to win. For a time he keeps the child with him during the inspired wanderings which follow, but eventually leaves her, forgotten, in a café at Budapest. When he returns to himself presently, in a Turkish harem, the immediate past is all a blank. Evidently, there are three things for him to achieve in the field of romance to which he has been called: to find the little girl, to marry the light of the harem who has rescued him, and to reform. All of these matters are duly attended to, after a good deal of amusing action and by-play. The tale is told in that good-humored and often witty style of "jolly" with which the American reporter is responding to our national taste for badinage.

Tama. By Onoto Watanna. Illustrated by Genjiro Kataoka. New York: Harper & Bros.

To a reader who has just been perusing the late Lafcadio Hearn's "Japanese Letters," the atmosphere of a book like this is a trifle puzzling. Hearn was always laying stress upon the irreconcilable difference between the Japanese point of view and our own. He held, for example, that it was impossible for a Japanese to understand our conception of the romantic relation of the sexes. Yet here is a story by a Japanese as Western in feeling as if it had been written by the author of "Madam Butterfly"—more Western than if it had come from the writer of "Madame Chrysanthème." Tama is a "fox-woman," feared and hated by all the natives of a remote province of Japan. She is the daughter of a white sailor and a Buddhist nun, who have been murdered by Japanese for the religious and racial crime of their union. The child has escaped to the forests, and there, though blind, has grown up in wild beauty, an accomplished thief and reputed witch. A foreigner comes into the district, an American who has been appointed teacher in the local college. To his imagination the story and presently the vision of Tama, the golden-haired witch, make strong appeal. She hovers about him, but will not be brought to close quarters, and he finally permits some of his Japanese students, who are devoted to him but fear and hate the "fox-woman," to trap her like an animal. Everything follows according to Western precedent. The man sets the girl free, wins her confidence and devotion, and protects her against the violence of the Japanese, who are determined that she shall share the fate of her parents. The pair escape to the forest, and finally make their way to the temple where Tama's father and mother have been murdered. They know that pursuit is upon them, and prepare to face death, when lo! a deputation arrives to lead them back to safety and even glory among a people who have sloughed off their superstition like a garment, and are eager to honor the former outcast. Is such a conversion possible in Japan? When we say that the man has been disfigured by smallpox, and is sure that Tama will loathe him when her vision is restored; and that she only loves him more than ever, we have outlined a conventionally Occidental plot. Whatever its source, the story is delicately told; and with its Japanese decorations, beautifully framed.

The Phantom of the Opera. By Gaston Leroux. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co.

It is a long drop from M. Leroux's "Mystery of the Yellow Room" to this fantastic piece of nonsense. The former was one of the best-constructed and most exciting detective stories of recent years; the present tale is enormously ingenious, but melodramatic *à outrance*, and runs in places pretty close to the ridiculous. A man of great powers, but born diabolically ugly (the old and wearisome *âme damnée* of the romanticists), becomes one of the contractors for building the opera house at Paris, constructs a secret dwelling for himself in the cellars, with all sorts of trap-doors, hidden passages, etc., through the edifice, and there, unseen and unknown, lives and makes himself felt by a thousand mysterious pranks and crimes. Of course, he falls in love with a young singer; in fact, the plot of the story hangs on the combat of this unseen wooer and an ordinary young man for the fair soprano. Despite the incredibility of the whole situation, M. Leroux succeeds in piquing the reader's curiosity, and the last search for the demon through the dark cellars of the opera is not without moments of what is called "breathless suspense." The audacity of the writer almost deprives the reader of his judgment. But M. Leroux owes to the world another detective story as good as "The Mystery of the Yellow Room" and better than "The Perfume of the Lady in Black."

BABYLONIAN AND ASSYRIAN OMENS.

Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets, etc., in the British Museum. Parts 27 and 28 (50 plates each). Printed by Order of the Trustees.

The two parts now added to this important series are taken up exclusively with omen texts—a branch of the Babylonian and Assyrian literature, the importance of which has only within recent years come to be recognized. All scholars must be grateful for the rapidity with which the valuable material of the British Museum is being made accessible, but it seems a pity to reprint texts that have already appeared instead of first exhausting the unpublished material. So of the fifty-nine tablets and fragments embodied in part 27, more than half have already been copied and published by Dr. Alfred Boissier of Geneva, whose various works on omen texts have given him the distinction of being a pioneer in this subdivision of the Babylonian-Assyrian religion. Part 28 also contains five plates of texts published some years ago by Boissier. Some mention at least should have been made of this in the introduction, where one also might have expected a reference to the fact that another text (K 258), covering two plates of part 27, was published some years ago by S. A. Smith, and that two further texts (KK 2007 and 3171) appeared in a former series of British Museum publications. With part 25 of this new series there was published a most necessary index of the registration numbers of the texts included in parts 1 to 25. It would be useful to embody with the thirtieth part an index of all tablets of the new series that have previously been published, together with an indication of where the former publications may be found. This is particularly essential, since a large number of the texts of the new series reproduce texts—often in a greatly improved form—that were included in the former series.

Coming to the texts themselves, the neat copies due to P. S. P. Hancock, one of the assistants in the Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities, demand a special word of recognition. Two classes of omen texts are covered by parts 27 and 28, omens derived from

monstrosities and unusual phenomena among new-born children and the young of animals, and omens derived from the examination of signs on the livers of sheep—the sacrificial animal *par excellence* among the Babylonians and Assyrians. An entire previous volume—part 20—having been devoted to "liver" texts, the eight plates of part 28 containing further specimens of this class may be regarded as a supplement to part 20. They deal chiefly with signs observed on the gall-bladder and on the finger-shaped appendix to the upper lobe of the sheep's liver which played a specially important part in hepatoscopy, or divination through the liver. Special mention should be made of a text (K 717), from which it appears that the meaning of the sign observed differed according to the month in which the animal was examined. This points to an association between hepatoscopy and astrology. The additional "liver" texts of part 28 furnish further illustrations of the complicated system of divination which was gradually evolved in the temple schools of Babylonia and Assyria, and which continued its sway over the population down to the downfall of both empires.

The "omens from births," as the other class may be briefly called, cover the entire twenty-seventh part and 42 plates of the twenty-eighth part. These omens differ from the "liver" texts, inasmuch as in the latter case an animal is deliberately selected and sacrificed in order to procure a sign of the will and intention of the gods through the inspection of the liver, whereas in the case of unusual phenomena among new-born children or the young of animals the sign is sent, as it were, by the deity as a warning or indication of something unusual that is about to happen. Another distinction between the two classes consists in the official character of the interpretations given to signs on the liver of the sacrificial animal, bearing as they do almost exclusively on public affairs such as war, victory or defeat of the army, good or bad crops, low or high prices, pestilences, and the like, affecting the entire population, whereas the signs represented by "births" affect also the individual in whose household or among whose possessions the signs in question are observed. Many of the phenomena noted strike one as exceedingly curious. Besides such monstrosities as children born with six fingers, six toes, three and even four feet, with one or both ears missing, with only one leg or without any legs, etc., the texts speak of children with the head, ear, or eye of a lion, dog, pig, or serpent, horse, cow, fox, or jackal. In the case of monstrosities among the young of animals, some of the phenomena are still stranger, such as sheep with two tails and four hearts or without hind or fore legs. Still more puzzling are the many instances of apparent hybrids, such as a foal with the head of a pig or the tail of a dog, sheep giving birth to a lion with the eye of a dog or pig or ass, and more of the like. It has been held that in such cases we are to suppose that the sign appeared to an individual in a dream, but the objection to this view is that the possible and apparently impossible monstrosities are bunched together in one and the same text. A more likely view seems to be that fancied resemblances to the organs or parts of animals in question lie at the basis of many of the signs, and perhaps as a further factor we must assume the persistent influence of the early beliefs in the existence of hybrid and fabulous monsters with which, as the Babylonians believed, the world was once populated. We must also remember that the purpose of the priests in making these extensive collections of omens of all kinds was to provide for all possible contingencies.

Quite apart, however, from the specific character of the omens noted, the value of these "omens from births" consists in the insight that they afford into a phase of the Babylonian-Assyrian religion furnishing a complement to the views held of the gods. The *Götterlehre* is mainly the product of the schools; the actual religion of the populace is represented to a large extent in the views underlying the various forms of divination.

The Political History of England. Edited by W. Hunt and R. L. Poole. 12 vols. New York: Longmans, Green & Co. 1905-1910.

With the appearance of Prof. A. F. Pollard's volume, covering the years 1547-1603, this great historical enterprise is brought to a good end. Of the last volume published it will suffice to say that it is up to the average of the series, learned and sound in the politics of the period, of somewhat less merit for style and for lucidity; the years following the Armada and the accession of James are treated rather summarily. But it is to the work as a whole, rather than to this last volume, that our space must be devoted.

The final estimate must partly confirm the first. To Mr. Poole, the able editor of the *English Historical Review*, and to his collaborator, Mr. Hunt, the chief credit is due. The editing has been admirable. Twelve volumes have been made to fit; the bibliographies are valuable and systematic; the work is a whole to a remarkable degree; and all that is in it can readily be found. The contributors have not, of course, been of equal merit; there is a marked superiority of quality in the volumes dealing with the early period of English history over those dealing with modern times. And among the first six volumes the present reviewer would single out those of Professor Tout (1216-1377) and of Mr. Fisher (1485-1547) as representing the highest level of achievement; the former excelling in well-rounded erudition, judgment, and clearness of statement, the latter in the supreme quality of historical sense and distinction.

As to the value of the "Political History" it may be said that it must remain for a good many years to come the summarized history of England which readers and students will make the starting point of further reading and investigation. Yet it is too packed with and narrowed down to pure politics, and too near the text-book in style, ever to hold the interest of an ordinary reader, while on the other hand both its text and its bibliographies are not detailed enough quite to serve the purpose of the real investigator; in a way it is little more than a chronological encyclopædia of English political history. This aspect of the matter may be worthy of a moment's consideration.

Although there are several distinguished English historians like Mr. Trevelyan, Professor Bury, Professor Firth, and others, who are not among the contributors to the "Political History," yet it may fairly be said that the work is representative of the English historical scholarship of to-day, and particularly of the very strong Oxford school. What then is the attitude of English historical scholarship towards its subject? It is largely negative. It is marked by disinclination to generalize, by a resolute preference for the purely political, and even party-political, above every other manifestation of the working of history; it seeks its quality in preciseness, by eliminating the social, the economic, the religious, the cultural factors from consideration. Now, to make politics the supreme test of history is fallacious, and on this point the present writer is glad to lean on the authority of Professor Turner, whose brilliant presidential address to the American Historical Association last December was based on this same text. History has jogged along after the sciences on the road of the endlessly subdivided special topic, and now that the sciences have turned off that road and once more headed back toward the land of complex factors, it is time history hastened to follow the better example. At all events, it seems quite probable that the "Political History of England" will remain a landmark in historical writing, indicating the furthest point reached by the tendencies of the last few decades. The "Political History" is a good, and honest, and valuable piece of work, but it is open to the just criticism that when it turns to its uses a real historian like Mr. Fisher, one is left regretting that he could not have written his volume untrammelled by the requirements of his editor.

History of the Sherman Law of the United States of America. By A. H. Walker. New York: Published by the Author. $2.

Mr. Walker is a firm believer in the policy on which, as he contends, the Sherman law is based. He does not recognize any distinction between reasonable and unreasonable restraints of trade, between good Trusts and bad Trusts; no matter what excuse could be given, no matter how important it may be to prevent cut-throat competition, every contract which directly restrains interstate commerce is within the law; the fact that the power exists to control prices is sufficient to constitute a monopoly, even though the power is never exercised and every element of unfair competition and oppression is lacking. He cites in support of his view the discussion in the Senate and the House on the original Sherman bill, the Reagan substitute, and the Sherman bill as it was finally enacted. The decisions of the courts, of which he gives summaries arranged chronologically, have, according to him, definitely settled the meaning of the words "restraint" and "monopoly." In the final chapter he examines the judicial records of the judges who will have to decide the Tobacco Trust and the Standard Oil cases, and comes to the conclusion that there is no doubt that the contentions of the Government in these cases will be sustained.

It appears to us that the author minimizes the difficulties which would result from the logical carrying out of his views. For instance, when he refers to the remark by Judge Lacombe, that if this construction is the correct one it would make invalid an agreement to join forces between two carriers running express wagons between two villages in contiguous States, the author contemptuously dismisses the contention with the remark that "the law does not regard trifles." The maxim does not seem to apply. If it is true, as was held in the Tobacco case, that a merger agreement entered into by a manufacturer voluntarily, without any unfair competition, for the purpose of protecting his business, which could no longer be managed by him individually, is really invalid merely because it diminishes the flow of competition, it is difficult to see why any contract of this kind should escape; the contract between the two carriers may, in its restricted territory, be much more effective to stifle competition than the contracts condemned by the author. The Government contended at the time of the argument of the Trust cases before the Supreme Court that the court in coming to its decision had the right to take public policy into consideration. If this suggestion is followed, the court may well hold that a policy which should procure competition against the operation of natural law and against the wishes of the parties interested, even when they are not under a public duty to compete, is not an enlightened public policy; it might hold that to the words "restraint" and "monopoly" must be given a technical meaning, the first signifying any unreasonable restraint, the second requiring the elements of oppression and coercion.

Nor are they so entirely precluded by prior decisions as the author contends. The Trans-Missouri, Joint Traffic, and Northern Securities cases, which formed the basis for the extreme doctrine, were directed against railways. There is an obvious distinction between railways and other public corporations which are bound to compete, and purely private concerns where no such duty exists. Moreover, these cases were decided by a bare majority. Judge Brewer, who was one of such majority, expressly states in his concurring opinion in the Northern Securities case that he did not agree with all that was said by the judge delivering the majority opinion, and that in these cases the decision might well have been placed on the ground that the restraints were unreasonable. If the law would punish, not the possession of the giant strength, but the use of it as a giant, it might be more efficacious in correcting the economic evils which may result from large combinations. The author admits that, notwithstanding the Trans-Missouri and Joint Traffic cases, virtually the same conditions prevail at the present time, and that the Northern Securities decision has not prevented the stifling of competition. If the law were directed exclusively against acts which were morally indefensible, and in every case the actual parties who committed such acts were criminally prosecuted, instead of merely the corporation fined and punished, respect for the law would be increased.

It is the very cipher of a function
To fine the faults whose fine stands in the record
And let go by the actor.

Die Kulturwerte der deutschen Literatur in ihrer geschichtlichen Entwicklung. By Kuno Francke. I. Band, Berlin: Weidmannsche Buchhandlung.

Since the author of "Social Forces in German Literature" states in the preface of his new book, that it is not identical with the former, all but the first chapter having been completely rewritten, it is needless, and would perhaps be unfair, to trace the differences between the two works. For after all an author writing on German letters in the two languages is justified when he addresses a German public in taking for granted certain things upon which he would have to expatiate in writing for American readers. Nor would it be just to approach a work of such serious purpose and thorough scholarship in a cavilling spirit, because the patriotic note sometimes obtrudes itself a little too emphatically.

Dr. Francke succeeds admirably in abstracting from the transient manifestations of the racial spirit, during such periods as the migration and the Crusades, the basic qualities of the German character: fearlessness, loyalty, and an almost youthful race pride. He presents impressively the contrast between the Church and the State, and to the conflicting ideals of the two he attributes the slow and inferior development of German art. But even in the religious poetry of the Middle Ages with its variations of old Bibical themes, he detects distinct racial features, among them a lusty realism which enters even into the dramatized sacred legends of the first woman playwright, the German nun Roswitha. In such discussions he is penetrating as well as learned. When, however, he begins to compare the poetry of chivalry produced in Germany with its equivalent in France, Italy, and England, he seems to be too readily swayed by his national or personal sympathies. For whatever the merits of the songs of Walther von der Vogelweide, and however right the author may be in ranking that poet as a personality higher than any of the Provençal troubadours, the comparison with Chaucer and Dante certainly forces the note. On the other hand one cheerfully accepts Dr. Francke's summary of the qualities which differentiate Walther von der Vogelweide from his French contemporaries, viz., a certain democratization of what was primarily an aristocratic pastime, an anticipation of the individual's protest against the dictates of society, and an almost revolutionary view of the conflict between Church and State. His analysis of the two great national epics, the "Nibelungenlied" and "Gudrun," has also some illuminating touches, and toward the end of this chapter he tersely and aptly characterizes the three epic poets of the period of chivalry, calling Hartmann von der Aue a painter of souls, Wolfram von Eschenbach the poet of ideal aspiration, and Gottfried von Strassburg the analyst of human passion.

The chapter on civic culture shows how the individualistic principle in thirteenth and fourteenth century mysticism became gradually democratic, especially as it manifested itself in the ecstatic revelations of the Beguines, typified in Melchthild von Magdeburg, and in the robust personal note of the itinerant preachers, of which the quotations from Berthold von Regensburg are striking examples. Eckhart, whom he calls the head of German mystics, anticipates according to Dr. Francke traits of a classicism of a much later period. To Heinrich Seuser, whom he calls a romantic,

he devotes an extraordinary amount of space, and Johannes Tauler, he appropriately calls a practical idealist. In his discussion of the folksong of the period Dr. Francke argues convincingly in favor of the individual origin and personal character of a good number of the songs which other authorities have pronounced purely impersonal expressions of the folk-soul. In his comparison of these songs with those of chivalry, he dwells upon their more naïve conception of love, their more intimate sense of nature, and their more direct vitality, and adds:

> We can imagine ourselves in the world of Walther von der Vogelweide, we can enjoy his images and sympathize with his ideals; but the folksong we can actually live within ourselves even to-day; we can feel its kinship, we are not separated from it by social barriers and historical suppositions.

But the most distinctive feature of the work is Dr. Francke's lucid exposition of the close relation between the literature and the art of Germany. From his comparison of the art and the letters of certain periods he derives some of his most forcible arguments and brings into the light points that otherwise would escape the reader. The work is a valuable contribution to the history of German literature, and the three volumes which are to follow will be awaited with genuine interest.

Theocritus in English Literature. By Robert T. Kerlin. Lynchburg, Va.: J. P. Bell Co.

This is a monograph of 215 pages which should be interesting both to the student of English and to the student of Greek. The one important thing, which is the direct influence of Theocritus upon the long line of English poets, is very carefully studied, though this is unfortunately burdened and obscured by a great deal of unimportant and inconclusive matter which adds very little to the value of the book. There is a special chapter on Theocritus in America, in which we are told that "the younger American singers, whatever their merits, have paid more tributes to Theocritus than to any other ancient poet"; also, that "doubtless the chief means of making our poet known in America" was the prose translation by Andrew Lang. Apparently, the older American singers and the older American writers knew very little about the Idyls:

> To illustrate the change that has taken place, in American papers and magazines the name of Theocritus is not to be found until within the last decade—never a review or notice of any translation, never a comparison of any other writer with him, never an allusion to him such as the English papers and magazines have contained all along. But his name is now beginning to appear with some frequency in our weeklies and our dailies (p. 141).

The point of this illustration, such as it is, is somewhat obscured by the printing of two quotations concerning Theocritus (pp. 156, 159) from two American magazines of the years 1888 and 1893. And possibly some of our older writers could cite similar appearances of the poet's name from a period still more remote. In an introductory section entitled The Place of Theocritus in the World's Literature there is an unfortunate statement about the influence of Theocritus in France:

> Of the French little need be said. Marot, who was imitated by Spenser in the "Shepheardes Calender," cannot be certainly affirmed to have known Theocritus—at least directly. And so remote from shepherd-life and rural manners are the other French pastoralists, that if Theocritus was known to them—as he was to Fontenelle—yet their artificial taste excluded his rusticity and natural graces (p. 11).

This sounds like a bit of traditional criticism, but it entirely ignores such an important group of writers as the French Pleiad, and especially the two great names of Ronsard and Baïf. Both Ronsard and Baïf state definitely that they had studied the Greek bucolic poets; and even without their definite statement the fact would be obvious enough—not only in their eclogues but throughout their voluminous works. Indeed, the poets of France must claim a large share of space in any study of the pastoral. For although in France, as elsewhere, men were misled for a time by the spurious pastoralism of the eighteenth century, yet even before the close of that century the great Greek models found once more a worthy interpreter in the romantic figure of André Chénier. And even in our own time we have heard delightful echoes of Theocritus in the poems of Leconte de Lisle.

Notes

Henry Holt & Co. will issue within the next fortnight "The Newer Spiritualism," in which Frank Podmore, while inclining against the theory of spirit communication, attempts to show possible extensions of the human faculty; "Half a Hundred Hero Tales of Ulysses and the Men of Old"; "Studies in Language and Literature," in honor of Prof. James Morgan Hart of Cornell, which will consist of eighteen contributions by his former students; Kellogg's "The Animals and Man," and "Perrault's "Les Lunettes de Grand'maman," edited by Mary Sinclair Crawford, the illustrations being reproduced from the French edition by Geoffroy.

A number of religious publications will be brought out this season by the Scribners, a list of which includes: the third volume of the "Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics," edited by James Hastings, D.D.; "History of Christian Thought from the Reformation to Kant," by A. C. McGiffert, D.D.; "A Biblical Geography and History," by Charles Foster Kent; "John the Loyal, Studies in the Ministry of the Baptist," by A. T. Robertson, D.D., and "The Message of the Poets," by Prof. Nathaniel Schmidt, of Cornell, being the eleventh number in the Messages of the Bible series.

The Scribners also promise: "Louis XIV and Madame de Maintenon," by Charlotte Lady Blennerhassett; a new volume in the South American series, entitled "Brazil," translated from the French of Pierre Denis by Bernard Miall; the last volume of the memorial edition of the works of George Meredith; "Narratives of Early Carolina," edited by A. S. Salley, jr., and "Henri II. His Court and Times," by H. Noel Williams.

On February 18, A. C. McClurg & Co. will issue Gen. Hiram M. Chittenden's "War of Peace: a Present Duty and a Future Hope."

The spring announcements of L. C. Page & Co. include: "The Story Girl," by L. M. Montgomery; an as yet nameless novel, by Norval Richardson; "A Captain of Raleigh's," by G. E. Theodore Rbberts, and a novelized version of a play, "A Soldier of the Revolution," done by Robert Neilson Stephens just prior to his death.

A book that is certain to attract wide interest is the "Letters and Journals of Charles Eliot Norton," in preparation by Houghton Mifflin Company for issue, it is hoped, in 1912. The book, which will run to two volumes, will be edited by his daughter, Miss Sara Norton, and M. A. De Wolfe Howe.

John Bigelow is at work upon the fourth volume of his "Retrospections of an Active Life."

Included in the spring books of the Baker & Taylor Co. are: "Dan McLean's Adventures," by Frederick W. Brown; "The Canon in Residence," by Victor L. Whitechurch; another Lawrenceville book, to be called "The Tennessee Shad," by Owen Johnson, and "The Blue Goose Chase."

Longmans, Green & Co. will issue shortly: "A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest," by Prof. John Edward Lloyd; "The First Decade of the Australian Commonwealth: a Chronicle of Contemporary Politics, 1901-1910," by Henry Gyle Turner; "The Sevenfold Unity of the Christian Church," by the Rev. Arthur C. A. Hall, D.D., Bishop of Vermont; "Prayer and Practice; or The Three Notable Duties," by the Rev. E. E. Holmes; "Studies in the Passion of Christ," by the Rev. C. H. Robinson, D.D.; "The Passion in the Spiritual Life," by the Rev. Jesse Brett; "John Viriamu Jones, and Other Oxford Memories," by Prof. Edward Bagnall Poulton; "The Religion of the Englishman: Six Addresses on Modern English Society Delivered at All Saints', Margaret Street," by the Rev. H. F. B. Mackay, and "The Resurrection and Modern Thought," by the Rev. W. J. Sparrow Simpson.

In the list of books promised by the English firm of Murray are: "Some Principles of Liturgical Reform," a contribution towards the revision of the Prayer Book, by Dr. W. H. Frere; "Japanese Poetry," by Prof. B. H. Chamberlain; "Reminiscences of a Paris Physician" (Dr. Poumiès de la Siboutie), edited by his daughters, and translated by Lady Theodora Davidson; "The British Empire," a text-book by E. G. Hawke; "The

Downfall of the Gods," by Sir Hugh Clifford; "Repton," a tale of Marlborough and the Jesuits under Queen Anne, by Lieut.-Col. F. Kane, and "Pot au Feu," by Marmaduke Pickthall.

Among the announcements of Nisbet & Co. is "The Position of Woman, Actual and Ideal," a series of studies by Miss Sheaven, Prof. J. A. Thomson, Sir Oliver Lodge, and others.

"Marriage and Divorce: Some Needed Reforms in Church and State," by Cecil Chapman, will inaugurate the Woman Citizen series, which is undertaken by the firm of David Nutt.

The same house has in hand "Monumenta Historica Celtica," a collection of references in classical authors by W. Dinan; "Thoughts on Ultimate Problems," by F. W. Frankland; and Matthew Arnold's "Celtic Literature," edited by the late Alfred Nutt.

A new book by H. Charles Woods, entitled "The Danger Zone of Europe—Changes and Problems in the Near East," will be published before long by Fisher Unwin.

Novels to be published by Little, Brown & Co. this month include: "A Woman with a Purpose," by Anna Chapin Ray; "How Leslie Loved," by Anne Warner, and "Alise of Astra," by H. B. Marriott Watson.

The nineteenth annual meeting of the American Jewish Historical Society will be held in the city of Philadelphia on Sunday and Monday, February 12 and 13. There will be four sessions: three on February 12 and one on February 13. The place of meeting is the Hotel Bellevue-Stratford, corner Broad and Walnut Streets.

The International Trap Shooting Tournament and Sportsmen's Exhibition, which will be held March 7-13, at Madison Square Garden, will have a book booth containing the literature of out-of-door sports, life and natural history. In like manner, the out-of-door art will be represented by an exhibition of paintings, drawings, and photographs by well-known men.

The Pan-American Commercial Conference will be held in Washington, February 13-18.

The noted Persian traveller, Major P. M. Sykes, gives, in the *Geographical Journal* for January, an account of a journey in the northeastern part of that country, the aim of which was mainly to solve some of its historical problems, especially those relating to the invasion of Alexander the Great. In the story of the Duke of the Abruzzi's expedition to the Karakoram Himalayas, told by one of its members, Dr. de Filippi, emphasis is laid on the remarkable feat of camping at above 21,000 feet for nine days without experiencing insomnia or mountain sickness. David Thompson, of whose career a brief sketch is given, came from a London charity school in 1784 to this country in the employ of the Hudson Bay Company. He educated himself as a surveyor in the forests and on the plains and mountains of the West, and did such excellent work that he was appointed by the government of Great Britain as its astronomer and surveyor to determine and define the boundary line between the United States and British North America under the Treaty of Ghent. Among the other contents is a most valuable contribution by Dr. J. S. Owens, to a subject closely connected with irrigation problems, the settlement of solids in water, seven different experiments being described.

The third and fourth volumes of "Emerson's Journals" (Houghton) comprise the years from 1833 to 1838 inclusive. About a third of the earlier volume is given up to the European trip that followed the death of his first wife. No American traveller of his time showed a finer appreciation of art. We regret there is not space to transcribe his eloquent words on the Church of Santa Croce, Florence. The years 1833-4 saw a consolidation of his health and nerves, and, with a fortunate second marriage, the institution of a new home. The ministry was now definitely behind him, and his journals and lectures were rapidly putting together the raw materials of the poems and essays. These journals are records of an inner life, and one reads them not for facts, but for opinions. He now had learned to accept his extreme self-consciousness and love of solitude. He writes cheerfully, "Certainly a man would be glad to do his country service, but he cannot cram his service down its throat. It is time enough if he come when he is called. It is enough for him if he has eyes to see, that he is infinite spectator, without hurrying, uncalled, to be infinite doer." One cannot read amiss amid these jottings. We take at random:

I told Landor I thought it an argument of weak understanding in Lord Chesterfield, his slippery morality. It is inexcusable in any man who pretends to greatness to confound moral distinctions. True genius, whatever faults of action it may have, never does. Shakespeare never does, though a loose liver. But such fry as Beaumont and Fletcher, and Massinger, do continually. . . . I think it was of Socrates that Landor dared to say—so far can a humorsome man indulge a whim—"He was a vulgar sophist," and he (Landor) could not forgive vulgarity in anybody; if he saw it in a wise man, he regretted it the more.

Of Goethe there is frequent criticism. His "velvet life" seemed not quite true to the New Englander. Concerning Goethe's manysidedness is written:

Goethe is praised as murionous, or allsided. And, if I understand it, this is the apology that is made for his Epicurean life, compared with his religious perceptions. To praise a man for such qualities is like praising an observatory for being very low and massive, and a very good fort. It is not more the office of man to receive all impressions, than it is to distinguish sharply between them.

The volume containing the journals from 1836 to 1838 affords equally good picking. We may put together three extracts which suggest the tone and have a certain spiritual continuity. Regarding the older poets, and with Ben Jonson especially in mind, Emerson writes:

The great poets are content with truth. They use the positive degree. They seem frigid and phlegmatic to those who have been spiced with the frantic passion and violent coloring of the modern Byrons and Hemanses and Shelleys. But it is like taking a walk or drinking cold water, to the simple who read them.

Friends come and go in the pages, Alcott, Margaret Fuller; Thoreau begins to count. At the end of April, 1838, occurs the following entry:

Yesterday afternoon I went to the cliff with Henry Thoreau. Warm, pleasant, misty weather which the great mountain amphitheatre seemed to drink in with gladness. A crow's voice filled all the miles of air with sound. A bird's voice, even a piping frog, enlivens a solitude and makes world enough for us.

The growing sense of reality is shown in such sayings as these:

Elizabeth Peabody brought me yesterday Hawthorne's "Footprints on the Seashore" to read. I complained that there was no inside to it. Alcott and he together would make a man.

When I read the North American Review or the London Quarterly, I seem to hear the snore of the muses, not their waking voice.

I hate goodies. I hate goodness that preaches. Goodness that preaches undoes itself. A little electricity of virtue lurks here and there in kitchens and among the obscure, chiefly women, that flashes out occasional light and makes the existence of the thing still credible.

Here is some suggestion of the temper of these journals. Only reading can give any idea of their multiform charm and interest.

A book confessedly "compiled from very crude and careless notes" awakens unpleasant suspicions, but Harry De Windt's "Finland as It Is" (Dutton) is better than its promise. The author, an experienced traveller, at home in many lands, has a graphic pen, and presents a very attractive picture of a little-known country. A certain vein of journalistic exaggeration runs through the book, but it is too obvious to mislead, and the reader soon learns not to take too literally such statements as that "the shops of Helsingfors are quite equal to those of any European capital," that the hotel there is "equal in every respect to the Cecil or Savoy," and that the Societetshuset at Tammerfors is "quite equal in every respect to the Helsingfors hotel; indeed, the apartments were even more luxurious." Finland, according to Mr. De Windt, is the paradise of the travelling epicure, for even at the post-house of the little village of Virkulla, where "the floor was of polished *parquet*, bright as glass, and there were rocking-chairs, flowers, and pictures," the postmaster prepared a meal, consisting of "grilled trout, chicken, and a sweet omelette, served upon spotless china and a snowy tablecloth." And as for the treatment of visitors, the author doubts whether there is "another country in Europe where an absolute stranger would meet with such spontaneous and kindly hospitality." Finnish women excite his unbounded admiration. They are "certainly as well, if not better, educated than those of any other European country." In Vasa, the shops are "far better than those usually found in an English town of the same size and importance"; and, "booksellers are legion, for the Finn is a great reader." Dickens "always holds his own, and of American authors Mark Twain is the most popular." Thus he skims lightly and pleasantly over the surface of things, with a sharp eye withal for the less commendable aspects of Finnish life. He finds, like other observers, that "the administration of Finland is quite as intolerant where Jews are concerned as Russia itself." Another dark feature of the country is the prevalence, "for some unknown reason," of blindness. "Finland contains, for its size, more blind people than any country in the world, Egypt, perhaps, excepted." The book was apparently written during the South African war, and the preface is dated August, 1901; but the information conveyed has lost little of its freshness since then. The practical direc-

tions for travel in Finland will be found very serviceable by the intending tourist, and his curiosity will certainly be enhanced by the attractive full-page illustrations. The drawings in the text are less pleasing.

The plan proposed by P. A. Silburn for what he quaintly terms the "Governance of Empire" (Longmans), is the creation of an Imperial council composed of members to be elected by the legislatures of the various constituent parts of the empire, including Great Britain, and of representatives of India. All matters of Imperial nature are to originate in this body, but shall not have the force of law until the legislature concerned shall have ratified and adopted the same. It is gravely proposed that only 67 out of the 216 members shall be allotted to the United Kingdom, that India shall have 37 members, and Canada 30. While the question whether the colonies should not have some representation in the councils of the nation, especially if they are expected to share in its burdens, is one which deserves the serious consideration it has received at the hands of all political parties, it is evident that the plan proposed is so far removed from practical politics that it is unnecessary to criticise it at length or to point out that its adoption would mean not the "governance" but the destruction of the empire and the substitution of a loose federation of virtually independent states. The chapters devoted to the federal government of ancient, mediæval, and modern times contain little that is new. Much space is devoted to Greek and Roman history, but not a word is said about the Constitution of the German Empire, and only a few allusions are made to the United States. These, however, are decidedly novel. The American Constitution is substantially similar to that of the Achaian League, and the reason that this fact was unknown to Washington, Hamilton, Jefferson, and the two Adamses, is that "these hardy colonists were denied the advantages of that higher education which would have made them acquainted with the labors of their prototypes of twenty centuries ago."

Volumes XVII and XVIII of the "Journals of the Continental Congress," edited by Gaillard Hunt (Government Printing Office), carry the record of that body from May 8, 1780, to the end of the year. It was the darkest period of the war. On the twelfth of May, the British took Charleston. June 7, Congress informed the Virginia Assembly that, while every effort would be made to defend the South, "they are not to rely too far on the assistance which may be drawn from the army of the United States," but must employ their own resources to the utmost. Gates, ordered June 13 to take command of the Southern department, met disgraceful defeat at Camden, August 16. The States had failed to pay the requisitions, or to raise any of the 25,000 men which were to coöperate with the French forces that arrived in July. August 3 came a memorial from the general officers, on behalf of the army as well as of themselves, calling attention pointedly to the failure of Congress to provide for their pay, or even to take notice of their demands; while on September 30 dispatches were received announcing the treason of Arnold. That, under these distressing circumstances, Congress accomplished as much as it did is to be attributed, in large part, to the conviction that independence was not far distant. Burdened as it was with the interminable details of administration, Congress found time for notable constructive action. June 22, the new bank at Philadelphia was given cordial recognition; October 21, half-pay for life was promised to officers who should serve until the end of the war. The quartermaster's department was reorganized in July, the inspecting, mustering, and hospital services in September. The parties to the Vermont controversy were given a rehearing, though the influence of New Hampshire and New York was still sufficient to prevent any recognition of the new State government. September 6, Virginia and Maryland were urged to come to terms in the matter of the Western lands; while, on October 10, it was voted that unappropriated lands, when ceded, should be held as national domain and disposed of for the common benefit, and ultimately be formed into "distinct republican States," and admitted to the Union. In December, Dana was appointed minister to Russia, and John Adams commissioned to conclude a treaty of amity and commerce with the United Provinces. Instructions to Jay, in October, directed him to insist, in his negotiations with Spain, upon free navigation of the Mississippi; while Adams was informed that a "short truce" with Great Britain would be regarded as "highly dangerous," and that the indispensable condition of peace was the recognition of American independence. Students of American financial history will be grateful for the full plan of taxes to be laid upon the States, November 4, and for the detailed report on finances, submitted December 18.

"Life and Public Services of J. Glancy Jones," by Charles Henry Jones (Lippincott), illustrates the twist in the historic vision which earnest filial piety may produce in the minds of men fairly sensible. Mr. Jones, looking back through the perspective of half a century beholds in his father a conspicuous pillar of the State, and invites the world's attention to a biography of nearly eight hundred pages, dealing with characters and issues that passed out with the civil war. J. Glancy Jones was unquestionably a good father and a correct, law-abiding citizen. At first an Episcopal clergyman, he laid down that office to follow the law and politics, serving as a Congressman from Pennsylvania during most of the decade closing with 1860. In public life he was a Democrat of the most thorough-going type. If not pro-slavery, he at any rate would not disturb an institution which the Constitution so plainly sanctioned, and had no word to say as to righting any wrongs under which the black race might suffer. As chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, and as minister to Austria during Buchanan's term, he discharged faithfully and well much routine work; but in the struggle of the country toward a humaner status he was strongly reactionary. He held opinions now discredited, and followed leaders and policies that proved inadequate and have long been condemned. Of course, it is well to get the point of view of such a man, but it may be better obtained from more succinct accounts of more significant characters.

The solemn inauguration in the summer, at Bagnères de Bigorre in the Pyrenees, of a bas-relief commemorative of Sophie Cottin (1770-1807) should excite as much interest in America as in France. Sainte-Beuve already said in his day: "Not a work of hers can be read now, except through curiosity to know our mothers' modes of sensibility." In the French course of our American girls' schools, her "Elizabeth ou les exilés de la Sibérie" has been a common textbook. The clear, correct, easy flow of its language made up amply for the old literary fashion of its story, whereas the "French novel" was a forbidden book to the American schoolgirl. Sophie was the daughter of Risteau, director of the Compagnie des Indes; and at twenty, just as the Revolution was beginning, she was married to the Bordeaux banker, Cottin, and went with him to Paris to live the short-lived triumph of the upper middle classes over the old régime. Her husband, much older than herself, fell dead of fright when the national guards came to arrest him under the Terror. Madame Cottin weathered the storm in discreet retirement, where she composed the romances "Claire d' Albe," "Amélie de Mansfield," "Malvina," "Mathilde," and the rest—which were long best sellers, and are now all but unknown. She died in full success at the age of thirty-seven.

English speaking students of the Old Icelandic language have, up to the present time, been without a short and handy dictionary, obtainable at a reasonable cost. The Cleasby-Vigfusson dictionary, published in 1874, which is still in certain respects the most complete thesaurus of Old Icelandic, contains a mass of quotations and other information which is invaluable to the scholar and the advanced student, but which is so much unnecessary lumber to the beginner. The need has now been met by a concise "Old Icelandic Dictionary" (Frowde), compiled by Geir T. Zoëga, first master in the grammar school of Reykjavik (Iceland). The book is based in the main upon the larger work, but deviates from it in some important respects, notably in the typographical arrangement, the alphabetical order of compound words, and in the separation of æ from æ and ö from ǫ, the latter changes denoting a great advancement in philological method and scientific sound notation. An appendix contains an outline of grammatical paradigms and a list of irregular forms.

We commend to the notice of American teachers M. A. Hamilton's "Junior History of Rome" (Clarendon Press) as an unusually successful attempt to make the early history of Rome interesting to young people. Although designed as a text-book, the volume has none of the external apparatus of a class-room manual; instead, it is a straightforward narrative of events, told in simple and attractive style, with emphasis on biography and action, and with praiseworthy attention to the earliest period. L. H. Herbert, who furnishes an introduction, speaks of the book as specially fitted to introduce pupils to the study of Latin literature; but while it should prove useful to that end, it is the historical rather than the literary side that is emphasized. As the story is not carried beyond the time of Julius Cæsar, the work obviously does not meet fully the prevailing college entrance requirements in this country, but it is a welcome addition to the list of really

good books for collateral reading, and will appeal to schools which teach Roman history, not as a separate subject, but in connection with the reading of classical authors.

Francis Philip Nash, emeritus professor of Latin language and literature at Hobart College, died suddenly at the residence of his daughter-in-law, Mrs. B. H. Nash, in Boston, on Sunday. He was graduated from Harvard in the class of 1856. Later, as a teacher, he belonged to what is becoming more and more a bygone type, for his achievement is to be measured not so much by what he actually wrote as by his sturdy scholarship, and by the nobility of his influence on students.

The death is reported of Owen Kildare, who popularly was known as "the Kipling of the Bowery." He was born in New in 1864, and started life as a newsboy. In turn he became a prize-fighter, a "bouncer" for a bartender, a dock laborer, and a social betterment worker in his district. Learning to read at thirty, he competed, a few years later, for a prize offered by a newspaper for the best love story. This began his career as an author. He contributed to many magazines and published four books: "My Mamie Rose," "The Good of the Wicked," "The Wisdom of the Simple," and "My Old Bailiwick."

Dr. James Albert Harrison, for fifteen years professor of English and Romance languages in the University of Virginia, and one of the best-known authors of the South, died last week at Charlottesville, in his sixty-third year. He had filled successively chairs at Randolph-Macon College, Washington and Lee University, and the University of Virginia, and was lecturer on Anglo-Saxon poetry at Johns Hopkins. He wrote: "Group of Poets and Their Haunts," "Greek Vignettes," "Spain in Profile," "French Syntax," "History of Spain," "Story of Greece," and "Autrefois" (a collection of Creole tales). He was joint author of several other works, and edited certain French, German, and Anglo-Saxon texts.

Science

To the series of "Garden Flowers in Color" Stokes has announced the addition of "Orchids" and "Daffodils."

"However cleverly written, an essay on guns soon becomes old and valueless," says Charles Askins in "The American Shotgun" (Outing Pub. Co.), and in this respect he is not far from the truth, for changes in style and make of guns are frequent, and a dissertation on them would be of less value, under ordinary circumstances, than the annual catalogues of the makers. Mr. Askins's book, however, tells many things about guns which the makers would be likely to conceal, and for that it is valuable. A part of the book is devoted to hints on shooting which are distinctly worth while; it is more than likely that the last chapters will be more carefully read than the first.

The supposition that the climate of the continent of North America has changed considerably during the last one or two thousand years, while at variance with the prevalent opinion of scientists, is a conclusion to which investigation of the ruins of the Hohokam has brought Dr. Ellsworth Huntington of the department of geology at Yale. In an article in the February *Harper's*, entitled "The First Americans," the investigator brings together the supposed conditions of life of a people who have left little except remains of implements and pottery. What remnants of their ancient villages there are, however, have not been much studied, owing to the fact that the ruins, while extending over large areas, are insignificant in appearance. Carved on the Picture Rocks, halfway from Tucson to Charco Yuma, can be seen the pictures of the feet and the bow and arrow of a primitive being whom Dr. Huntington christens Man-Who-Can-Shoot, and also the grotesque running figure of Man-Who-Ran-For-His-Life, pursued by an angry buck. The great mass of the ruins, lying in the valleys of southern Arizona and northwestern Mexico, are in places where it would be impossible now to locate villages, and where, during part of the year, not even drinking water can be obtained. At one time the almost uninhabited fifty miles below the main irrigated areas of Tucson contained at least seven villages, with a total population of about 5,000. This fact, taken in connection with others, such as the lack of tools for digging wells, means for the author that in the days of the Hohokam the climate was much moister than now, and that in favored spots cultivation could be carried on by means of the natural rainfall.

The reader of G. B. Grinnell's "American Game-Bird Shooting" (Forest and Stream Publishing Co.) is reminded first of the want of a satisfactory work upon this subject, and of the great difficulties of an attempt to deal with it within the limits of a single volume, as Mr. Grinnell has done. Sectional conditions vary so widely in shooting in this country that he would be brave indeed who ventured to think general observations sufficient. It is but fair, however, to say that Mr. Grinnell admits this, and makes allowances; the fault lies in the scope laid out for his work. The author defines his subject as upland shooting of those birds commonly sought with dogs. He devotes the first part of his book to a description of the natural history of the birds, including woodcock, the American snipe, the several varieties of quail and grouse, and the wild turkey; the second part to actual field conditions met with in shooting, with short chapters upon dogs, guns, and ammunition. It is unfortunate that Mr. Grinnell lacks an entertaining style, which makes books upon this sport so readable. One is often annoyed, too, by needless repetition of words and by a confusion of the singular and plural in speaking of certain birds. So, in the chapter on bob-white shooting (p. 348):

> In many parts of the South, where the quail are in greater abundance, their sweet notes may be heard in many directions, at many distances, in the early morning and evening hours. These calls often work great harm to it, for by them the shooter learns the whereabouts of all the birds.

The brief accounts of personal experiences in the field, told by the author, or quoted from other writers, are the most interesting pages of the book. In the end, Mr. Grinnell offers some thoughtful observations upon the shooting of the future, emphasizing the immediate need of better game protection. The volume is well illustrated, and the several plates in color are capitally executed.

"Ski-ing for Beginners" (Scribner) is interesting and instructive. This exhilarating winter sport is increasing in popularity, and as W. Rickmer Rickmers is the first to write for beginners, his book is timely. The ski is a much more difficult snow-shoe to handle than the Canadian variety, and until now there has been no such elaborate teaching. More than 100 pictures and diagrams, with explanations, form not the least important part of the book. For the experienced there are valuable hints on outfit, as well as directions for touring, in which respects Mr. Rickmers is a well-known authority.

Louis Gentil, from his scientific exploration of the Atlas Mountain chain in Morocco, brings up again the question of Plato's Atlantis in a note presented to the French Académie des Sciences. He does not find, as is commonly supposed, that the chain stops short fifty miles from the Atlantic Coast, with plateaux between. On the contrary its folds and fractures keep on, plunge beneath the ocean, and crop up again in the Canary Isles. The channel which separates these islands from the African mainland may be compared with the Strait of Gibraltar, except that the latter dates from the pliocene, while the former seems to belong to the quaternary, that is, to be contemporary with man. In fact, the central mass of the Atlas is the resultant of great fractures which gave rise to tremendous volcanic eruptions. Subsequent displacements and the play of the ancient fractures gradually lowered the regions of Marakesh to the north, and Sus to the south, leaving the giant volcano of Jebel Sirua, which M. Gentil has been the first to describe. This present state of the Atlas is undoubtedly far later than the constitution of the Alps; and it shows a possible existence of the land of Atlantis in the human era. M. Gentil concludes that a minute geological study of the South Morocco coast and Canary archipelago might clear up the legend.

Dr. Leonard Parker Kinnicutt, chemist, died at his home, in Worcester, Mass., last Monday, at the age of fifty-seven. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1875; for four years he studied in Germany, at Bonn and at Heidelberg, and later at Johns Hopkins and at Harvard, at the last-named institution being for several years a professor of chemistry. In 1890 he was made director of the chemical department of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. At the time of his death he was recognized as one of the greatest experts on sewage disposal and water supply in this country. He was a member of many scientific societies here and in Europe.

Drama

SOPHOCLES IN GERMAN.

BERLIN, January 20.

Had Sophocles returned from the shades last month, and chanced to visit Berlin, he might have had the pleasure

of witnessing three performances of his plays within a week. Whether he would have recognized them as his is another question, but he need by no means have been ashamed of their reception by the public. The "Œdipus Tyrannus" has, up to the present, been seen by more than 100,000 people, and the announcement of every new performance is greeted by a rush for tickets that exhausts the supply within a few hours. The "Electra" was given only a few times, on each occasion, however, to a crowded house. A third production—of the "Œdipus Coloneus"—put on the boards about twenty times, proved less successful, but attracted serious attention, partly, perhaps, because of its pretentious claims. All three plays were performed by professional companies, under professional direction, before the regular theatre-going public, and at playhouses containing seats that ranged from the priceless royal box to the humble fifty pfennig Stehplatz.

The "Œdipus Coloneus" bravely attempted to be quite true to the antique. Except for the members of the chorus, there were but four (male) actors, and to these all the rôles, both male and female, were entrusted. Masks and buskins were used, the scenery aimed at reproducing the conditions of the Greek stage, and various other details of the arrangements were intended to reproduce those of an actual ancient performance. A fairly literal, though fluent, translation by Adolf Wilbrandt served as text, and the chorus—that stumbling block of modern managers—was retained. This effort was generally conceded to be praiseworthy, but unsuccessful; students were interested, and yet they could but agree with the public in finding that at a comparatively small theatre, in a day when every spectator might use his opera-glass if he chose, masks and buskins were ludicrous, the consequent restraint in expression and movement an unnecessary sacrifice, and the presence of men in the female parts, to say the least, unnatural. It seemed an instance of clinging to ancient usages in such dissimilar circumstances that the true significance of the original, instead of being illumined, was almost completely lost.

A very different spirit directed the production of the "Electra." Although the text followed the Greek original quite closely—it was again a translation by Wilbrandt—modifications in arrangement and presentation were introduced at will. Two attendants spoke the lines of the chorus in a realistic fashion; the acting was wholly unhampered by ancient traditions; scenery and costumes were modern versions of the antique; exits and entrances were accomplished in the usual manner; and the action took place upon the ordinary stage level. Under such conditions, external distractions were minimized, and the onus of being effective was, so to speak, thrown upon the tragedy itself. And the tragedy undoubtedly was effective. The human elements in the fate of the heroine (excellently played by Adele Sandrock) clearly appealed to the audience, and there were unmistakable signs of weeping in the urn scene. Even the lyrics were appreciated, and the famous praise of Athens was roundly applauded. The concluding scenes were less successful, perhaps because the secondary rôles were unsatisfactorily acted, more probably because of the foreign religious and ethical conceptions involved, and the (to modern minds) anti-climax of the end.

It is the production of the "Œdipus Tyrannus," however, that has had the most vogue and that has literally become the rage in Berlin—the topic of conversation on every street corner—the subject of post cards and cinematograph performances—the butt of parodies and caricature. And this production pretends to be neither wholly ancient nor wholly modern. The director of the Deutsches Theater, a man noted for his artistic disposal of details and his painstaking attention to picturesque effects, has frankly used every resource known to the present-day theatre in order to make the tragedy as effective as possible to a modern audience.

In this he has been materially aided by the translation. Hugo von Hofmannsthal pretends merely to have translated and adapted the "Œdipus Tyrannus" for the modern stage. As a matter of fact, he clings closely to the original in form and substance, but manages—by the use of an emotional vocabulary, by abridging similes and long descriptions, by dramatizing stage directions, and by reshaping the parts of the chorus and the Second Messenger—to vivify and intensify the impression and decidedly to quicken the tempo of the whole. The lines of the chorus are greatly shortened and are so incorporated into the action and so distributed among the members as to become the utterances of a very realistic group of elders; and the substance of the extended speeches in which the Second Messenger announces Jocasta's death and the blinding of Œdipus is breathlessly imparted by a group of half-distracted maids from the palace.

The performance was given in a huge circus building, and heroic proportions were the rule. At one end of the arena arose the front of an enormous Doric palace, upon the twelve broad steps of which the action of the principals for the most part took place. Characters not supposed to be dwelling in the palace entered the arena from below, the actual distance from the entrances to the palace steps being one of the many details that contributed to the general impression of heightened reality. The size of the arena permitted the introduction of a mob of some two hundred supernumeraries, and the scene at the opening where these pest-ridden suppliants rushed with outstretched arms to beg the king for relief was one of the most striking in the play. The advantages of space and modern mechanical devices were also apparent in the direction of the chorus, the figures of which symmetrically, though unobtrusively, grouped themselves in the semi-darkness below the palace steps. The principal rôles were entrusted to actors fully capable of striking the remarkable range of feeling that the tragedy demands, and their finished impersonations contributed in no small measure to the perfection of the whole performance.

This production has again demonstrated that Greek tragedy can still be made effective to the masses—it has, in fact, been the incentive to a great movement for national Volksfestspiele in Germany—and it has also demonstrated, not only to the masses but to students and scholars as well, that a performance in the hand is worth any amount of archæological research in the bush. G. F.

Amélie Rives has written a one-act play called "The Kid Faun," the same being "an echo of 'The Faun,'" which William Faversham is presenting at Daly's Theatre. This little play will be presented at Maxine Elliott's Theatre on the afternoon of February 17 as one of the features of a charitable performance. The two leading characters in the play will be impersonated by E. Effingham Pinto and Mrs. Patrick Campbell.

Sir Charles Wyndham, it is said, has bought the English rights of H. S. Sheldon's play "The Havoc," and will himself assume the part assumed in this city by Henry Miller.

According to the Canadian papers, Louis N. Parker's play "Disraeli" and George Arliss, who enacts the famous British statesman, have both had a very favorable reception in that country. The piece seems to be nine-tenths fiction with just a dash of historical truth to give it substance. It is a drama of love and social and political intrigue, which reaches its climax when the hero, outwitting all foreign diplomatic and financial rivals, finally succeeds in completing his famous purchase of the Suez Canal shares.

When "Count Hannibal" has run its course at the London Garrick, Oscar Asche will give a series of Shakespearean revivals, including "Othello," "As You Like It," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Henry Hamilton is writing a new stage version of the career of Joan of Arc, in which Ellaline Terriss will be seen in London in March.

Miss Darragh and Basil Dean have taken over the repertory season in Liverpool (which was to have been given by Alfred Waring and the Scottish Repertory Organization), with the support of the Liverpool Playgoers' Society and others. The season will begin on February 20 at Kelly's Theatre with a fortnight's production of John Galsworthy's "Strife"; and among

other plays to be produced in the course of the six weeks are Sudermann's "The Vale of Content," St. John Hankin's "The Cassilis Engagement," and J. M. Barrie's "The Twelve-Pound Look." It is hoped that the success of the venture will be such as to justify the permanent foundation of a repertory theatre for Liverpool. John Masefield will go to Liverpool to lecture on behalf of the scheme.

It is said that Gordon Craig will have a hand in the preparation of the scenery for Sir Herbert Tree's revival of "Macbeth" at His Majesty's Theatre, in London.

There seems to be a pretty general agreement among the London critics that Sir A. W. Pinero in his latest comedy, "Preserving Mr. Panmure," has been guilty of more than one offence against good taste. His cynical attitude of mind has betrayed him into lapses of this kind before. In the present instance he has chosen a peculiarly repulsive incident as the theme of laughter. Mr. Panmure is a grotesque old satyr, married to a saintly wife who has instituted an "Order of Pure Souls." His unpleasant character is insisted upon with great particularity. Therefore, when he forcibly kisses the pretty governess, the latter feels that she has been horribly outraged, but she is too fond of Mrs. Panmure to shock her by a recital of the matter. Nevertheless, she cannot keep her secret altogether, and the fact leaks out that she has been kissed by one of the half-dozen men among the guests of the house. The question, in which all the women are vitally interested, is, by which one? Mrs. Panmure decides that it is clearly her husband's duty to search out the offender, and so the guilty old rascal is compelled to begin an investigation which it is his prime object to defeat. It is easy to imagine to what excellent comic purpose Pinero would employ material of this sort, and it is said that the jealous and hypocritical complications that he has devised excited roars of laughter. But, as one critic observes, the laughter was often on the wrong side of the mouth. There was an uneasy feeling that the source of mirth was not wholly legitimate. Moreover, Sir Arthur, it seems, has also seen fit to make religious convictions the subject of his ridicule. Most of the critics say that the play is too long and that the fourth act, especially, seems thin and tedious, after the fun of the second and third. Arthur Playfair distinguished himself by a remarkable character study of the old reprobate Panmure, and Marie Löhr made a bewitching little governess.

The seventieth anniversary of his marriage has drawn attention to the oldest Paris playwright, probably the oldest of the world. Ferdinand Dugué is ninety-five years old, and his wife ninety-two. His first play, "Gaiffer," was produced at the Odéon in 1843; his last "Un Drame au fond de la mer," at the old Théâtre Historique in 1877. This and other pieces of Dugué are still played in suburban and provincial theatres, and make a living wage for his old days. His "Pirates de la savane" has had more than 10,000 representations. Dugué is the last survivor of the school of the Boulevard du Temple, where so many theatres stood until they were swept away in Baron Haussmann's modernizing of Paris streets. It was called the "boulevard du crime," from the peculiar human interest then cultivated in playwriting. Dugué still inhabits this boulevard; and he is also faithful to the antique spirit of its drama. The other day, in answer to congratulations, he observed: "You know I am not tender for the modern stage. Its plays and their subjects are always the same one thing—adultery. Say what you will against the historic drama, there was good in it, and the public learned something from it; but all that seems old-fashioned now." Dugué has always refused to publish his Memoirs; but he says that he has notes of his lifetime classified and in order, and that he is willing they should be published when he is gone.

Music

Gustav Mahler. Von Paul Stefan. Munich: R. Piper & Co.

The announcement that Gustav Mahler has been persuaded to retain for another year the conductorship of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra is most welcome to those who have at heart the welfare of concert music. No other living conductor except Arthur Nikisch knows as he does how to interest the public in the music of all epochs and countries. He is, however, undiplomatic, and averse to lionizing, or even social intercourse; he dislikes the self-advertising methods of the day so much that he even refuses to talk about his symphonies when they are produced here, or to furnish "programmes" of their contents which would facilitate writing about them in the newspapers. The result of this lack of "push" is that he is not so well known to the general public as he ought to be in the interest of the art he represents; his aims are not fully understood; nay, newspaper misrepresentation of them has given many music lovers erroneous ideas regarding him, and kept them from enjoying his marvellous interpretations of the masters, from Bach to the present day.

Under these circumstances nothing could be more timely than the appearance of a book which tells the story of this unique man's career, and his triumphs and trials in Europe, where there is a large party which considers him the greatest of living composers as well as of operatic and concert conductors. While his compositions have heretofore received much less attention than those of Richard Strauss and Max Reger, his fiftieth birthday was celebrated last summer with great pomp by the performance of his eighth symphony, which requires a thousand singers and players for its production. This was in Munich, but it was in Vienna that he passed the most important decade in his life. Though not a Czech, he was born in a Bohemian village, and there is much of the true Bohemian spirit in his music. As a boy he heard, sang, and played hundreds of Slavic tunes, and these became part and parcel of his mental fibre. When only six years old he discovered in his grandfather's house an old piano of which he became so enamored that he did not hear, or neglected, even the calls for meals. Two years later he gave lessons! He was taken to Professor Epstein, who recognized in him the "born musician." At fifteen he was in the Vienna Conservatory, winning prize after prize for playing as well as for essays in composition. At eighteen he began an opera which he never completed; at nineteen, to make a start in practical life, he accepted the conductorship of a summer operetta company at $12 a week.

A performance of "Parsifal" at Bayreuth fired his ambitions. He wrote to Angelo Neumann, applying for a position as conductor. Neumann, who had just become manager of the Prague Opera, gave him one. Anton Seidl was the first conductor; he gave Mahler an opportunity, and was so much pleased with the result that he entrusted him at once with the preparations for the production of "Rheingold" and "Walküre." From Seidl Mahler got impressions and hints which had a great influence on the development of his mind. Subsequently, he conducted in Leipzig, and then in Hamburg, where Nikisch held the first place at that time, and at Budapest, where a strong man was wanted to stop the growing deficits. He succeeded, but owing to the accession of a new manager who did not approve of Wagner, Mahler left, returning to Hamburg, to which Pollini had summoned him by wire to be first conductor, as Nikisch had resigned. Among his singers were Ernestine Schumann-Heink and Katharina Klafsky. Here he showed his sympathies for French and Russian music. One of his most enthusiastic admirers was Hans von Bülow, who, when he became too ill to remain as conductor of the Philharmonic concerts, appointed Mahler as his successor.

Honorable though these positions were, the call of Vienna was irresistible when it came in 1897, for here Mahler was appointed not only chief conductor but director, with full authority over artists, repertory, and every detail of the management of the imperial institution. Dr. Stefan gives many interesting details concerning the reforms introduced by Mahler, and his ideals, which, in the main, were in accordance with Wagner's. He not only fired the artists to renewed efforts, himself being always the hardest worker, but he brought the audiences to behave in a more mannerly way, with more respect for those who came early and wished to remain to the end. Neglected masterworks were revived, and the works in the regular repertory were

rescued from slovenly execution and from the evil effects of alleged traditions. As a matter of course, in making all these reforms, he could not help treading on the toes of a good many easy-going people. Enemies multiplied; his iron will galled many; his passion for a perfect ensemble made him pay scant respect to "stars," who were not allowed to indulge in individual propensities at the cost of the ensemble. The friction steadily increased, until Mahler tired of it and accepted a call from New York; but the war between the Mahlerites and the Weingartnerites continued to rage for a long time.

Dr. Stefan gives brief analyses of Mahler's symphonies and songs, which must make every reader eager to hear more of them. He dwells on this composer's curious attitude toward the question of programme music, which is similar to Strauss's pretended attitude but the opposite of his practice; he tells an amusing story of how some of the critics were deceived when Mahler completed Weber's unfinished opera, "Die drei Pintos"; he quotes various striking aphorisms uttered by Mahler, and Mahler's own division of his works into three periods or styles; he calls attention to Mahler's curious indifference to the fate of his compositions after he has once made sure by a performance that the orchestration is correct in every detail; and at the end he gives a useful list of brochures and articles in periodicals on Mahler and his works. Concerning the alterations in the orchestration of older musical works which Mahler frequently makes in order to cover weaknesses in those scores and to cause them to sound to our ears as they sounded to those who first heard them, Dr. Stefan contends, with some justice, that it would be almost a crime *not* to make such improvements.

George P. Upton is publishing with A. C. McClurg & Co. "The Standard Handbook of Music," which traces the history of music, describes the functions of the orchestra, historically and instrumentally, deals with chamber and vocal music, etc., and gives separate treatment to religious music.

Several songs in English will be included in the programme which Mme. Johanna Gadski will give at her only New York recital, in Carnegie Hall Tuesday afternoon, February 14. Among them are "The Church Yard," Franz; "The Little Gray Dove," L. V. Saar; "One Gave Me a Rose," Edwin Schneider, who is Mme. Gadski's accompanist; "Dearest," Sidney Homer; and "Ecstasy," W. M. Rummel. Other features of the programme will be Lieder groups of Schubert, Schumann, Franz, and Brahms.

Concerning Wagner's autobiography, which is soon to appear in the book market, Dr. Julius Kapp gives some interesting information in the Berlin *Tageblatt*. Wagner undertook to write the story of his life at the suggestion of King Ludwig II of Bavaria. He dictated it in the years 1865 to 1870, a time when Cosima von Bülow (later his own wife) exerted a great influence on him. The first volume covers the years 1813 to 1842; the second, the years 1842 to 1850; the third, 1850 to 1861. A continuation, begun later at Bayreuth, remained a fragment. The title of the work is simply "My Life." In 1870 a Swiss printer, Bonfantini, put the manuscript into type, and printed fifteen copies, which Wagner gave to friends under pledge of secrecy. One of these friends was Nietzsche, who subsequently became one of Wagner's most violent enemies, and declared that he should not believe a single word written by Wagner unless it was corroborated by others.

Richard Strauss is quoted as saying in regard to his new opera:

> The spirit of Mozart floated unconsciously before me, but I have remained true to myself. The orchestra is not as heavy as it is in "Salome" or "Elektra," but it by no means follows that I have yielded to the prevailing fashion which would produce all of Mozart's works with a reduced orchestra. In fact, this is not consistent with Mozart's own intentions, as on one occasion, when an English Mæcenas employed 100 violinists in a Mozart symphony, the composer was delighted with the result. The "Rosenkavalier" is scored for full orchestra, and while it is treated with a certain intentional simplicity, it, nevertheless, presents difficulties, equal in degree, if differing in character, from those to be found in "Salome" or "Elektra."

Art

THE ROYAL TREASURE OF EGYPT AND ETHIOPIA.

Ægyptische Goldschmiedearbeiten; unter Mitwirkung von Georg Möller und Wilhelm Schubart herausgegeben von Heinrich Schäfer. Mit 212 Abbildungen, 2 Farben- und 35 Lichtdrucktafeln. Berlin: Verlag von Karl Curtius. Königliche Museen zu Berlin. Mitteilungen aus der Ægyptischen Sammlung. Band I.

To find the fabled wealth of Homer's "blameless Ethiopians" lying before us in the sumptuous color plates of a modern art publication is not an event of everyday occurrence. The unique and turbulent history, ancient and modern, of this distant and inaccessible civilization, furnishes a rare and picturesque background for the Ethiopian treasure in Berlin, which the modern world has largely forgotten. As far back as the middle of the fourth millennium before Christ, the Egyptians of the lower Nile had established trade relations with the tribes of the northern Sudan, undaunted by the thousand miles of cataract region which lay between. Century by century the Egyptian frontier advanced up the river as the Pharaohs slowly absorbed the cataract country on their southern boundary, till the once rare gold, ivory, ebony, ostrich feathers, and aromatic gums of the south became habitual objects of traffic in the market-places of all the larger cities of Egypt. When in the sixteenth century, B. C., the Egyptian control of the southern trade-routes had developed into actual administration of the country to the foot of the fourth cataract, the land of Ethiopia or as the Egyptians and the Hebrews after them called it, Kush, gradually took on a veneer of Egyptian civilization. This superficial culture from the north, in some externals at least, was rendered more permanent than would otherwise have been possible, by the sumptuous buildings erected in the more important towns by the Egyptian architects on behalf of the Pharaoh. For eight centuries the land of Ethiopia was governed by the Pharaoh's viceroy. Detaching itself at last in the eighth century, B. C., an Ethiopian dynasty, probably Egyptian fugitives in the beginning, turned upon their old Egyptian lords and pushing down the river, took advantage of the complete and final decay of Egyptian power, to seize the venerable throne of the Pharaohs. These became the Ethiopian Pharaohs of Egypt, the Twenty-Fifth Dynasty, who were denounced as a "broken reed" by the great Hebrew statesman Isaiah. Unable to meet the powers of the Mediterranean world on equal terms, they suffered defeat at the hands of the Assyrians, and by 670, B. C., they had ingloriously withdrawn to their remote and inaccessible capital of Napata (Noph in the Old Testament) at the foot of the Fourth Cataract.

When later the Ethiopian kings put also the fourth and fifth cataracts between them and the Mediterranean world, by the transfer of their capital to Meroe above the Fifth Cataract, they turned their back upon the barbarism of inner Africa in complete isolation, and severed any surviving bonds which had united them with the civilization of the north. After the Persian conquest of Egypt in 525 B. C., when Cambyses endeavored to penetrate to the Ethiopian capital, he failed, and his expedition ended in such disaster as so often attends long desert marches in the tropics. Traditions of the wealth and splendor of this distant kingdom in inner Africa gained wide currency in the Greek world, and the impression was universal that Meroe and the land of Ethiopia were the source of Egyptian civilization. This tradition survived and was generally credited almost to our own day. So inaccessible was the cataract region where the land of Ethiopia lay, that it remained unvisited by travelers until two centuries ago. Then there began to reach Europe vague reports of vast and sumptuous buildings and splendid cities now in ruin. These reports were confirmed, early in the nineteenth century, as traveler after traveler, beginning with Burckhardt, who brought the first news of the great temple of Abu Simbel, returned with drawings and descriptions of the magnificent buildings which they had found. The obscure traditions of the Greek age

were now regarded as fully confirmed, and Ethiopia took its place in the old histories of two generations ago, as the primitive seat of civilization on the Nile, and perhaps of the whole world.

As Mohammed Ali's troops pushed southward in the conquest of the Sudan in 1820, he was followed by the usual train of European adventurers, among whom was the Italian army surgeon, Ferlini. Resigning from the service, Ferlini decided in 1834 to try his fortune in treasure-hunting among the ruins through which he had passed on his southward march. Entirely without archæological schooling of any sort, he tried several sites, including the city of Meroe, without success. Undaunted by failure, and entertaining the most preposterous hopes, he left the ruins of the city and turned to its cemetery, with its three imposing groups of tall, pointed pyramids. In the middle group he attacked the best preserved of these, with the intention of demolishing the entire monument and clearing it away to the base. Speaking generally in the light of modern knowledge, such a plan had not the remotest prospect of success. It was precisely like the methodless treasure-hunting of Schliemann, though far less laudable in motive. The results, however, were so anomalous and surprising, that some have doubted Ferlini's story, which is our sole evidence in the matter. Having cut down the pyramid to a short distance below its apex, he found behind a false window in one side, a small chamber six or seven feet long, in which was a long object covered with a white cloth. On removing this he found under it a bier or couch, beneath which was a bronze bowl, containing, wrapped in cloth, the elaborate and splendid golden regalia of an Ethiopian queen. Lured by this discovery, Ferlini continued the clearance of the pyramid, and actually did remove it to the very rock of the hill on which it was built. This barbarous annihilation of an ancient royal tomb brought Ferlini only two beautiful bronze vases of Greek workmanship, which he found in the masonry nearly half way down to the base.

Such was Ferlini's reputation that his discovery brought him little advantage. The treasure was looked upon with general suspicion. Ludwig I of Bavaria, however, selected a few pieces for his own collection; but it was not until 1844 that Lepsius succeeded in inducing the Berlin authorities to purchase the rest, comprising the bulk of the treasure, for £700 sterling. Lepsius, fresh from his memorable expedition through Ethiopia, had finally demonstrated the true character and place of Ethiopian civilization, and demolished the tradition which had enjoyed unchallenged currency for two thousand five hundred years. The regalia of Ferlini's Ethiopian queen became one of the chief treasures of the great Berlin collection, and the fact that it was worn by one of that line of Candace mentioned in the New Testament as Queen of Ethiopia, at the very time when the Apostle Philip preached as they rode in the chariot to the queen's Ethiopian eunuch, "who was over all her treasure" (Acts 8:27), naturally suggests a wider interest than the treasure would enjoy as exclusively works of art. The civilization which these beautiful works represent is now receiving unprecedented attention. Following the Ethiopian Expedition of the University of Chicago in 1905-07, four other expeditions have been dispatched thither by the Royal Academy of Berlin, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Liverpool, and Oxford University. The Oxford expedition has just left (November, 1910), under the direction of the able Oxford Egyptologist, F. L. Griffith, who has in the last eighteen months made important progress in the decipherment of the ancient Ethiopian inscriptions. The publication of the Berlin jewelry is therefore peculiarly timely, and represents the first of a series of volumes in which the Berlin museum plans to issue in exhaustive form the most important works of art comprised in its great Egyptian collections.

There is no field of art in which early Egypt was so unquestionably supreme as in that of the goldsmith's work. Probably no room in the national museum at Cairo excites such surprise in the mind of the average visitor as that which contains its magnificent collection of works in gold, extending from the thirty-fifth century, B. C., down through the dynasties into Græco-Roman days. This surprise is in great measure due to the fact that the Cairo collection stands alone; none of the European museums contains anything approaching it, and the traveler has had no hint in Europe of what awaits him in Cairo. If we may make any exception as to the European collections, such an exception would be the Ethiopian jewelry in Berlin. Prof. Schäfer, one of the directors of the Berlin museum, has given us a careful and worthy account of these works, with elaborate reproductions and plates, some of them in color. These are done with the proverbial accuracy and beauty of German work in this field, and are accompanied by detailed description in the text, with full citation of related material.

The beautiful volume is, however, more than an elaborate monograph on the Ethiopian jewelry. Dr. Möller, one of the museum staff, has taken up systematically all the Egyptian jewelry in the Berlin collections from the earliest times to the Græco-Roman age, and presented them in the first two sections of the work, with plates reproducing every piece and an exhaustive text. Here are hollow golden beads from the middle of the fourth millennium, B. C., with a diameter of an eighth of an inch, built up of sheet gold in tiny sections so exquisitely soldered together that the seams are invisible. It was the early possession of such technical power as this which made the Egyptian goldsmith supreme in the early Orient. It is impossible in so brief a notice to speak of the individual pieces, but it is not a little interesting to find among the seals the golden seal-cylinder of the chief goldsmith of Mykerinos, builder of the third pyramid of Gizeh (28th century, B. C.). The treasure of the Ethiopian queen by Schäfer forms the third section, while a fourth on the works in gold and silver mentioned in the Greek papyri in Egypt is a valuable contribution by Dr. Schubart. Two useful appendices contain an account of gold and silver overlay and inlay (Möller), besides the original report and catalogue prepared by Ferlini, republished here in Italian.

In view of the fact that the great Cairo collection of jewelry has been published only piecemeal, partially and always inadequately, the Berlin volume will form the basis of our study of early Oriental jewelry, and enable us to test the conclusions of Vernier ("La Bijouterie"). The publisher has spared no pains or expense in supplementing the well-known ability of the authors, and the volume is a model in all matters of mechanical production. It will be indispensable in all art libraries and of great interest to private collectors as well as all students of ancient art.

Finance

LOOKING AHEAD AND BEHIND.

Two beliefs are firmly held in Wall Street concerning the relation of the stock market to the financial situation in general—one, that whatever the outlook for finance may be, speculation for the rise or for the fall will not long remain dormant; the other, that the movement of prices is bound to give some clue to the actual trend of events in the larger field. These presumptions explain why the daily stock market table is scanned every afternoon with interest, not only by bankers and stock-brokers, but by business men outside of Wall Street who never speculate for their own account at all. Yet, if the market is bound to move, even when a financial outlook is perplexing and obscure, it must sometimes follow that the actual basis for such a movement, up or down, will be difficult for the outsider to discern. Sometimes the course of prices seems so inconsistent with what it was a very little time before, when seemingly identical influences were at work in the financial situation, that the bewildered public is driven to

ask whether Wall Street has any serious convictions at all or any real deductive power. The very same news which is used to explain a collapsing market at one time, will be cited a few months later as the cause of a violent advance. Things which would cause terror to-day will be looked upon with the utmost calmness to-morrow.

The past week has provided some curious illustrations. Early last year, it was known that the railways were in need of capital. The Stock Exchange shook its head forlornly. James J. Hill declared that, with these requirements pressing, "the country is up against a stone wall." The companies could not get the money, and failure to get it "spells calamity." The stock market's comment, then, was a severe decline. On Tuesday of last week the Union Pacific management announced its purpose of spending $75,000,000 to complete its double-track—this despite rate regulation, high cost of capital, hostile legislation, and demands by laborers for increased pay. Rumors of similar requests by other railways had been general. The response of the stock market was a burst of enthusiasm and an advance in prices—this on top of a ten-point advance in prices since the close of 1910.

In October, 1909, the Steel Corporation's earnings were increasing at the rate of nearly a million dollars monthly. The company was about to raise its dividend and had planned for still another increase later on. Orders on the company's books increased from 4,700,000 tons on October 1 to 5,900,000 at the end of 1909, the latter figure being larger by 64 per cent. than at the end of 1908. Yet the comment of the Stock Exchange was a break in Steel common shares from 94⅞ on October 4 to 85⅛ on November 30. On Tuesday of last week the Steel Corporation reported for the three preceding months the smallest earnings by far of any quarter in its history, except for the period of violent reaction in the industry during 1904, the half-year after the panic of 1907, and the two or three months of "open market prices" early in 1909.

Not only were the quarter's earnings smaller by 36½ per cent. than the same quarter of 1909, but the decrease had been progressing rapidly. December showed the lowest of all past monthly earnings outside of 1908 and 1904, running 13 to 40 per cent. below the monthly figures of 1901 and 1902, when the company's plant was scarcely more than half as large as it is to-day. But the stock market, which had greeted the good news of the last months of 1909 with declining prices, received last week's very bad report by a rise in Steel common stock to a price 10 points above what it scored at the opening of January.

In this case, Wall Street doubtless would explain the anomaly on the ground that the market of October, 1909, was anticipating the steel trade reaction of 1910, that the present month's market is similarly anticipating a future change in the line of betterment, and that both markets were indifferent to the story of the past. This is entirely plausible. But there is yet another case of Stock Exchange inconsistency, which that explanation hardly fits. A year ago this month decision on the Anti-Trust cases was expected by Wall Street almost hourly. The stock market fell into great demoralization, and Wall Street authorities, great and small, ascribed the whole movement to the impending court decisions. It further professed the view that we could have no business revival in this country with so alarming a factor of uncertainty overhanging. As a matter of fact there was little real probability of a decision at that time. But the membership of the court is complete to-day, and when it adjourned at the close of January for a three weeks' vacation, the justices undoubtedly took home the Oil and Tobacco records with a view to an early decision.

But the stock market, which declined in anticipation of the action of the court exactly a year ago, has advanced with great enthusiasm on the present occasion. This week, if any one in the Wall Street offices suggested the dangers that might confront the market when the decision is handed down, other people listened to him deprecatingly and whispered to one another, "He must be a bear." Yet, so far as the scope and effect of the decision are concerned, Wall Street was either wrong this month or else wrong a year ago. If the Stock Exchange movement was really governed by the Anti-Trust situation, it must, apparently, have made at least one mistake.

No doubt the simple solution is that neither the Anti-Trust litigation, nor the Steel Corporation's earnings, nor the projected borrowing of Union Pacific and other railways, was a fundamental influence on the markets, either a year ago or now. The salient point of contrast is that the money market's resources had been tied up, a year ago, in a host of ill-advised and premature speculations, whereas to-day, after fully twelve months of compulsory readjustment of credit and capital resources, the market is again in a workable condition. Considered in the narrower way, such a change in the money situation would facilitate a rise in stocks to-day, where the similar influences made a decline inevitable in February, 1910. To at least some extent, this change will also affect, in a favorable way, the business situation generally. But it still remains to be seen how far that situation is to be governed or modified by other influences.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

American Indians North of Mexico. Bulletin 30, Part 2, N—Z. Bureau American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution.

Argentine Republic: Agricultural and Pastoral Census of the Nation. 3 vols. Buenos Ayres.

Argentine République: Recensement Général d'Education. 3 vols. Buenos Ayres.

Bragdon, C. Episodes from an Unwritten History. Second edition enlarged. Rochester: The Manas Press. 50 cents net.

Cathcart, W. L., and Chaffee, J. I. The Elements of Graphic Statics. Van Nostrand. $2 net.

Comstock, W. P. Garages and Motor Boat Houses. W. G. Comstock Co. $2.

Farnol, J. The Broad Highway. Boston: Little, Brown. $1.35 net.

Hale, L. C. The Married Miss Worth; a Novel. Harpers. $1.20 net.

Hardy's Two on a Tower. Harper. $1.25.

Hayes, J. R. Brandywine Days. Philadelphia: The Biddle Press. $1.50.

Hempl, G. The Solving of an Ancient Riddle. Ionic Greek Before Homer. Reprinted from *Harper's Magazine*. Stanford University: The Author.

Hoffmann, H. Iwan der Schreckliche und Sein Hund. Edited, with notes, by C. M. Poor. Frowde. 60 cents.

Jones, P. L. Script and Print: a Practical Primer for use in the Preparation of Manuscript and Print. Phila.: Griffith & Rowland Press. 25 cents net.

Lecky, W. E. H. Historical and Political Essays. New edition. Longmans, Green.

Leroux, G. The Phantom of the Opera. Bobbs-Merrill. $1.25 net.

Lloyd, J. A. T. Two Russian Reformers: Ivan Turgenev, Leo Tolstoy. Lane. $3.50 net.

Loening and Arndt. Deutsche Wirtschaft. Selections, edited with notes, by J. A. Bole. Holt.

Lukach, H. C. A Bibliography of Sierra Leone. Frowde. $2.90.

Mackenzie, N. F. Notes on Irrigation Works: Course of Lectures at Oxford. Van Nostrand. $2.50 net.

Neilson, R. M. Aeroplane Patents. Van Nostrand. $2 net.

Nordau, M. The Interpretation of History. Translated from the German by M. A. Hamilton. Moffat, Yard. $2 net.

Patterson, J. E. Tillers of the Soil. Duffield. $1.30 net.

Phelps, W. L. Essays on Russian Novelists. Macmillan. $1.25 net.

Reade, C. A Good Fight: Original Version of the Cloister and the Hearth. Intro. by Andrew Lang. Frowde.

Robertson, A. T. Commentary on the Gospel According to Matthew. Macmillan. 60 cents net.

Royal Historical Society Transactions. Third series, Vol. IV. London: The Society.

Saunders, R. D. Colonel Todhunter of Missouri. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill.

Snyder, W. Poetical Favorites—Yours and Mine. Wessels & Bissell. $1.25.

Swallow, S. C. III Score & X, or Selections, Collections, Recollections of Seventy Busy Years. Harrisburg, Pa.: United Evangelical Pub. House. $1.

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White, F. M. Dropped from the Fast Express. Chicago: Laird & Lee. 75 cents.
Widtsoe, J. A. Dry-Farming. Macmillan. $1.50 net.
Womer, P. P. The Coming Creed. Boston: Sherman, French. 80 cents net.
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